

A N
A C C O U N T
O F
M U S C O V Y,

As it was in the Year 1689.

In which the TROUBLES that hap-
pen'd in, that Empire from the Present
Czar P E T E R's Election to the Throne,
to his being firmly settled in it, are par-
ticularly related.

With a Character of Him, and his People.

By Monsieur D E L A N E U V I L L E,
Then Residing at *Moscow*.

L O N D O N :

Printed for *Edward Castle*, next *Scotland-Yard-
Gate*, by *Whiteball*. 1699.

TO THE

K I N G.

SIR,

THE Marquess of Bethune being inform'd in July, 1689. that the Swedish and Brandenburg Envoys were gone to Moscow; he judg'd it necessary for Your Majesty's Service to send some Person thither to discover the purport of the Negotiation of those Envoys; he was pleas'd to Honour me with this Trust, at which I was startled, having been there formerly, and been apprehensive more than once of being ill us'd by those Barbarians; but considering 'twas for Your Majesty's Service, I readily obey'd, only reminding the Marquess that no Person was suffer'd to enter that Kingdom, unless as an Envoy, or a Merchant. He undertook to engage the

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King

The Dedication.

*King of Poland in the business; but that Prince told him 'twas hardly possible but I should be known at Moscow, and either be discover'd by the Czar's Minister, or others, that had seen me at his Court, and then I should be treated as a Spy, and sent to end my days in Ziberia; but since His Majesty's Service requir'd my going thither, he would send me in a Post that should secure me, and give me a means of succeeding in my Commission. Accordingly he gave me Letters of Recommendation to the Czars, and Passports, and I set forward with an Equipage suitable to my Character. For by the last Treaty betwixt the Poles, and the Muscovites, 'tis agreed not to defray the Envoys Charges, nor furnish them with Carriages. In fourteen Days I reach'd the Frontiers, though the distance from Warsaw to Casime, the last Town in Poland, is One hundred and sixty German Leagues. I gave notice of my Arrival, and my Commission, to the Palatin of the Duchy of Smolensko, whither I went next day, and was receiv'd as I have related in the Account of my Journey; and having tarried ten Days till the Courier came back, whom the Palatin sent to the Court for Orders concerning me; I went thence to Moscow, and was lodg'd in a House ap-
pointed*

The Dedication.

pointed for me by the Prime Minister, One hundred and fifty Paces distant from the City, whither the Pristave Spararus, a Walachian, came to Complement me in his Name, and keep me Company. A Week after, he conducted me to the Pretache or Council; after which I had leave to visit the Ministers of Poland, Sweden, Denmark, and Brandenbourg, and some German Officers; and was so happy as to discover, that all the business which the Envoys of Sweden and Brandenbourg came about, was to render the King of Poland's Conduct suspected to the Muscovites, who they alledg'd was in Your Majesty's Interest, and would make a separate Peace with the Turk, to the prejudice of the League; after which he would make a Diversion into the Ducal Prussia in Your Favour. And the Dutch Envoy to enforce what they said, assur'd the Muscovites that I was a Frenchman, and was come to Moscow to pry into their Secrets. These Informations made them resolve to confine me within my House for eight Days together; but the Polish Envoy made such loud Complaints of it, as an Injury done to his Master in my Person; that the Council discharg'd me, and said they had no other design in taking away my Liberty, than

The Dedication.

than to save me from the Insults of the People, who were incens'd against me. Upon which I took occasion to declare, That I knew France very well, and that that King with all his Millions would not give a hundred Crowns to discover the Designs of the Czar; and that being the King of Poland's Minister, I did not fear the People. In short, the Ministers of Sweden being sent back without any success, I gave notice of it to the Marquis of Bethune, desiring him to recall me, well foreseeing the Troubles that were coming on. In the beginning of the Commotions, I was forc'd, for my Security, to keep within Doors, not daring to stir abroad; where all the Diversions I had, was the Conversation of my Priestave, who had been sent to China, and was come back two Months. The Information I got from him, being pretty curious, and likely to be of use to Your Majesty, shewing the easiness of establishing a Commerce with that Country by Land, I have thought fit to relate the Particulars of what I learnt. Sometime after my return from Poland, the Marquis de Bethune understanding that the Elector of Saxony, and the Duke of Hannover, were to meet together at Carlsstad in Bohemia, he desired the King of Poland

The Dedication.

Poland to send me to Complement the Duke of Hanover upon the Death of his Son, which he had just given him advice of, in hopes I might find out the Design of the Interview between these two Princes. I went thither, and gave an Account to the Marquess of Bethune of all that I discovered, which was no more than that some Propositions had pass'd on both sides about the Dutchy of Lavembourgh, but they could not come to an Accommodation.

To conclude, Sir, Your Majesty having acquainted the King of Poland with the Death of Madam the Dauphine, he nam'd Prince Rzarstoecki, now at the Academy at Paris, to pay his Complement of Congdolance to Your Majesty. But the Marquess of Bethune desiring me to accept of that Office, in hopes that under that Character I might with more safety carry the Dispatches which he gave me for Your Majesty, and for Your Minister at Hamburg, as I did, and that passing through some Courts where I was very well known, and had been always well receiv'd, I might inform my self what Condition their Affairs were in; I found them all out of Order, and except the Duke of Hanover and his House, all in great need of a Peace with Your Majesty. I have been
honour'd

The Dedication.

honour'd with the Character of Your Majesty's Envoy; and beseech You, Sir, to accept favourably all that my Zeal for Your Service has made me undertake; and the Account I render, which contains such Particulars as Your Majesty may be Curious to know, when You are at leisure from Your Application to decide the Fate of Europe, which Your Victories, and the Justice of Heaven have put into Your Hands.

I am,

Your Majesty's

Most Humble and Faithful

Subject and Servant,

De la Nerville.

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ACCOUNT OF MUSCOVY,

As it was in the Year 1689.

THE King of *Poland* having honour'd me with the Character of his Envoy Extraordinary to *Muscovy* the first of July 1689. I departed from *Warsaw* on the 19th. of the same Month, and took my way by *Smolensko*, because the way of *Kiovia*, which is the shortest, was at that time infested by the *Tartars*. As soon as the Palatine or Governour of the Province (who is a more polite Man than the *Muscovites* generally are) heard that I had left *Cazine*, and was coming to *Smolensko*, he sent a Priestave, or Gentleman, B

2 Monsieur De la Neuville's

man, with an Interpreter to meet me, which they did within half a League of the City, and conducted me into the Suburbs on the other side of the *Nieper*, carrying me to a House till they knew where the Palatine wou'd appoint me a fit Lodging: Immediately one of them went to him with the news of my arrival; whereupon he sent me his Compliments, and some refreshments, viz. a small Cask of *Brandy*, another of Sack, and a third of Honey, together with some Fowls, two Sheep, and one Calf, a Cart-load of Fish, and another of Oats. He also offer'd me a House, either within the Town or the Suburbs; I chose to be in the latter, because there is no Gate to it, but the City-Gate is shut up sometimes. Next day I made him a Visit at his Castle, where he expected me with the Metropolitan, and some Persons of Quality.

I shall say nothing of this City, the Buildings being all of Wood here, as well as all the Country over; surrounded with a slight Stone-wall to secure them from the Inroads of the *Poles*. To do the greater honour to me, or rather to himself, 6000 of the Militia were drawn out, being Peasants of those parts, which

which are form'd into Regiments upon such occasions, and have pretty handsome Coats given them; they are paid by the *Czars* four Crowns a year, and three Bushels of Salt. All the Boys at six years old are Lifted, and receive Pay, so that these Forces are made up of Old Men and Children, for no body is excused from serving till they die. I past through this noble Body of Soldiers, who stood rank'd in two Lines from my House to the Governor's, being in my Coach follow'd by the *Postkarsla*, or the King's Lieutenant of *Mobilova*, and twelve Officers belonging to that Garrison, who were order'd by the King of *Poland* to accompany me hither; as soon as the Palatine saw me alight before the Castle, he came and receiv'd me at the top of the Steps, from whence he led me to his Apartment; where we did not sit down, but after some Compliments on both sides, which were interpreted by Major General *Menefius*, a *Scotchman*, who speaks all the *European* Languages, the Palatine order'd some large Cups of Brandy to be brought in, which were drank off to the King of *Poland's* and *Czars* Health. After which I took my leave of him, and he waited on me back again

4 Monsieur De la Neuville's

again half way down the Steps, and stood to see me take Coach. I return'd in the same order I came, and found General *Menētus* attending my coming, being order'd by the Palatine to keep me Company, while I continued here. I was very agreeably surpriz'd to find a Man of his merit in so Barbarous a Country; for besides his skill in Languages, which he speaks perfectly well, he is very knowing in the Affairs of the World, and has something in his Story worth relating.

After having seen most parts of *Europe*, he went into *Poland*, designing to return from thence to *Scotland*; but having an Intrigue with a *Lithuanian* Colonel's Lady, the Husband grew jealous of his frequent Visits, and laid some Servants in wait to kill him; but his Mistress giving him timely notice of it, he found a way to draw the Colonel to a Duel, and kill'd him; upon which he was forc'd to fly, but for want of a Guide fell in with a party of *Muscovites*, who at that time were at War with the *Poles*; at first they treated him as a Prisoner of War; but upon telling them the cause of his flight, they gave him his choice, either to serve the

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the Czar, or else to go into *Ziberia*: He took up with the latter, out of an inclination to see those parts. But the Father of the present *Czars* desiring to see him, and finding him a comely Man, took him into Court, and gave him sixty Peasants, (each Peasant brings in to his Master about Eight Crowns a year.) Besides, he made up a Match between him and the Widow of one *Marcellus*, who was the first that made Iron in *Muscovy*, which now brings in to the *Czars* a Revenue of 10000 Crowns per Annum.

The same Prince sent him to *Rome* in the year 1672, to offer Pope *Clement* a Re-union of the *Russian* to the *Romish* Church upon certain conditions; but returning without success, he was made Major-General, and sometime after, the Czar *Alexis Samuel Errick*, a little before his death, declar'd him Governor to his Son the young Prince *Peter*, with whom he continued all along till the beginning of the Reign of the Czar *John*, when the Princess *Sophia* and Prince *Galischin*, not being able to make him abandon the Interest of Prince *Peter*, oblig'd him to retire to *Smolensko*, and make the last Campaign, in hopes to

6 Monsieur De la Neuville's

be rid of him. But this Disgrace was the occasion of his present fortune; for having an opportunity to get acquainted with Prince Peter's Uncle on the Mother's side, a Colonel in that Garison, he took him with him to *Moscow*, as soon as his Nephew became Master of that City, where he has often treated me very friendly at his House, with the *Naraskins* Father and Son. The Prime Minister understanding that I was at *Smolensko*, the Capital of the Dutchy of that name, which the King of *Poland* yeilded to the Czars by the Treaty in 1686, sent order to the Palatine that I shou'd be conducted in the usual manner to *Lastolissz*, which signifies the Court, and is improperly call'd by us *Moscow*, which is the name of a River that runs through it. I began my Journey upon the 20th. of *August*, attended by a *Pristave*, a Captain, and six Soldiers: The first proof of their courage that these Gentlemen gave me, was in our passage through a Wood of twenty Leagues long, having never a House in it. So we made our Lodging as commodious as we cou'd in our Waggon; our Horses Grazing by us. In the Night we had a violent storm, and the Horses broke out of the *Tabor*,
(or

(or Inclosure made by our Waggon) and ran into the Woods for shelter; I bid the Officer send some of his Men for them, and others to cut down Wood for Firing; but the Officer and Soldiers answered unanimously, that they would not stir out of the *Tabor* for a hundred Ducats a Man, because that seven years before some of their Comrades that were sent on such an Errand, were murder'd in this very place; so that we staid till Morning, and then all the Horses at one Whistle came back to the *Tabor*.

From thence I continued my Journey till I arriv'd in the Suburbs of *Lastolitz*, which is divided from the City by the River *Moscow*, which is fordable in that part; the Officer that came with me carry'd me to a House, and desir'd me to tarry till he return'd from the Prime Minister, whom he went to acquaint with my Arrival. In two hours he came back with Orders to bring me over the River, and conduct me to a House that was appointed for me, where the *Pristave Spatarus* quickly came to Compliment me in the name of the Prime Minister, who commanded him to continue with me; and likewise according to custom an Officer and six Soldiers were appointed

8 Monsieur De la Neuville's

ed for my Guard, who were strictly charged to admit no person into my House for eight days ; at length Prince *Galischin* sent for me to the *Prerarche*, which is a spacious Building in form of a square ; there are several Halls in it, in each of which particular Councils are held, which before *Galischin* came into the Ministry, us'd to meet in Barns ; I found him seated at the upper end of a great Table with many *Boyers* on each side ; he caus'd a Chair to be set for me, and then an Interpreter ask'd me in *Latin* for my Letters : I presented him those which the Grand Chancellor of *Lithuania* directed to him, wherein he inform'd him, that the King had sent me into *Muscovy* about his Majesty's Business, and had given me a Letter to the *Czars* ; he answer'd that he wou'd acquaint the *Czar John*, who was then at *Moscow* with it, and that he hoped I shou'd have Audience very speedily ; after which he enquir'd, as the custom is, whether the Chancellor was in good health ? forbearing out of respect to ask how the King did. Then I rise up to retire ; he rose up too, and wish'd me the happiness of seeing the *Czar* in a short time. Some days after, I sent in Civility to desire Audience

dience of him at his House, where I was receiv'd as handsomely as if I had been at the Court of some Prince of *Italy*. During the conversation in *Latin*, upon the Affairs of *Europe*, and my thoughts of the War betwixt *France* and the Confederates, and especially concerning the Revolution in *England*, He presented me with all sorts of Strong waters and Wine; advising me at the same time with a great deal of Complaisance not to taste of them. He promis'd to get me my Audience in a few days, which he certainly would have done, had he not fallen into disgrace, which produced such a great change of Affairs, that every moment there was an out-cry of Fire and Murder; and if the *Czar Peter* had not had the courage to seize the leading men of the Princess's Party, his Life and Crown had been lost.

Such was the face of Affairs for six Weeks together, that one cou'd not tell who to address one's self to; which made me resolve to write a Letter to the Young *Galischin*, the *Czar Peter's* Favourite, signifying my surprize, that no Answer was given me in relation to my Audience, and the Letters which I had to deliver; he excus'd the matter to me on account of the late Troubles, and assur'd me,

10 Monsieur De la Neuville's

me, that the *Czar* would soon come to *Lastolitz*, as indeed he did the first day of *November*. As soon as I heard of his arrival, I went to see his Favourite, and demanded Audience; he did not carry himself like his Kinsman, but treated me with Brandy, and all the Conversation pass'd in drinking; all that I could gather from this Drunkard, was, that I should have Audience in three days, after which I might depart when I thought fit; but before that time came about, he fell into disgrace, and I was oblig'd to take other measures. The Office of *Dommitb Diak*, or Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was at that juncture given to one *Emilian*; this Name, which in the *Sclavonian* Tongue signifies a Claw or Talon, befits him well; for he is very covetous, and lets nothing slip that comes within the reach of his Talons. Though this man was one of the great *Galischin's* Creatures, and owed his Fortune to him, being originally but a mean Notary, yet he was one of the first to traduce the memory of his *Benefactor*; and taking a pique against me for not addressing my self to him for leave to depart, but always to *Galischin*, the *Czar Peter's* Favourite, as soon as he saw him in disgrace, he refus'd to execute the

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Command which *Galischin* had persuaded the *Czar* to give him, concerning me; *viz.* to tell me, That either I must stay for my Audience till *Twelfth-day*, or (following the King of *Poland's* Orders, who apprehended the consequence of these Troubles) might be gone when I pleas'd. Nay, he took occasion to excuse himself to the *Czar Peter*, by persuading him that I ought to be detain'd for a while; insinuating that the King of *Poland* had sent me to *Moscow* only to negotiate with the Prime Minister, and to assure the Princess and *Galischin* of his Protection; and as a ground for such a Suspicion, he urg'd, that contrary to the usual custom in this Country, and the honour of my Character, I had made several private Visits to that Prince. Being inform'd of all that pass'd, I bethought myself of an Expedient, *viz.* To offer some Money under-hand to *Emilian* for leave to depart, which he having promis'd to give me for 100 *Ducats*, instead of sending them to him, as had been agreed betwixt him and the Person I had employ'd, I went under pretence of paying him a visit to carry the Money myself; now my Friend *Harmenrich*, to whom I disclos'd the matter, popp'd in upon him just at the time

time this Secretary had appointed me to come, and I had the pleasure to tell him my mind very roundly in this young Lord's presence; for I knew what mettle the *Moscovites* are made of; that they understand nothing of Civility or Honesty, and therefore 'tis in vain to deal with 'em upon those Terms, much less to beg a favour of 'em, because that makes 'em despise one; but they must be handled roughly when a man designs to bring 'em to reason. I told him the Law of Nations was violated in my Person; that I perceiv'd the King of *Poland* was misinform'd, when upon giving me my Commission, he assur'd me that the *Moscovites* were no longer *Barbarians*: That I was so weary of living among 'em, that I could wish I were allow'd to buy a permission to return; but soasmuch as I had the honour to be the Minister of a great King, a Neighbour and Ally to the *Czars*, I could do no otherwise than give him advice, that I was hindred from obeying the Orders he had sent me, No longer to solicit an Audience, but with all expedition to leave the Country.

After I had deliver'd my self to this purpose in *Laſin*, which my Friend *Hartbennerick* interpreted to him, and had taken

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off several Cups of Brandy and Sack to the Czar's Health, I took my leave of him, ordering a *Polish* Gentleman to give him the 100 *Ducats*, which I intimated were for his under Secretary, but he never durst touch 'em. Upon which I reported abroad how generous he was, being given to understand there was no other means of obtaining my *Congé*. Mean time the Czar *Peter* having recall'd his Favorite *Galischin* to Court, I went to visit him, and congratulate his return. He told me, he was much surpriz'd to hear that *Emilian* had not dispatch'd my Business according to the directions he had caus'd to be given him before he left the Court; that he would complain of it to the Czar, who thought I was gone already; and that since I had waited so long to no purpose to kiss His Majesty's Hand, he would take care I should have that honour.

Two days after, I was well pleas'd to see two Gentlemen of the Czar's Bed-Chamber come to my House; the truth on't is, these same Gentlemen have nothing but the Name, they are very inconsiderable People, and have nothing to live upon but a Pension from the Czar of 200 *Livres per Ann*. After their customary Ceremonies, which are making many

many Signs of the Cross, and bowing their Heads to some Picture of the *Virgin*, which is always plac'd in a Corner, they saluted me, and enquir'd in the Czar's Name how I did; to which I having answer'd by Cups of Brandy in abundance, they told me the Czar had a mind to see me, to make me some Present, and defray my Charges since my coming to *Moscow*, to the day I should leave it; that in the mean time he had sent me his Dinner. I repli'd, I would not fail to acquaint the King of all the marks of distinction the Czar should honour me with, which was punctually perform'd. This Dinner consisted of a piece of smoak'd Beef of 40 pound weight, several Dishes of Fish dress'd with Oil of Nuts; half a Pig, a dozen of Pies half bak'd, made of Meat, Garlick and Saffron, and three great Flaggons of Brandy, Sack, and Honey. 'Tis easy to guess from this Bill of Fare, that the best part of the Treat was the honour that was done me in so extraordinary an Entertainment.

Next day came another Gentleman to give me notice to get ready for my Audience the next day; but instead of the Audience, I was told, the *Czars* being then

then going a Pilgrimage together, I could not have the honour of seeing them till they came back. Upon which I went presently to *Galischin's* House, where I found *Harthemonerick*. They both questioned me how I lik'd the Dinner which the *Czar* sent me, I made answer, that to my misfortune, the *French* Cooks had so debauch'd my Palate, that I could not relish the *Russian* Dainties. Now they having formerly exprest a desire of tasting a *French* Ragoust, I invited them to an Entertainment of mine next day, which they accepted of, upon condition none should be there, but their Friends, whom I desir'd 'em to invite themselves; they were the *Danish* Commissary, and some other Merchants, at whose Houses they now and then go to drink to save their own Wine. They both seem'd so well pleas'd with this Repast, that they sent several Dishes home to their Wives, and carri'd away with them, without any Ceremony, all the dri'd Sweetmeats, affuring me they had never far'd so well in their lives, and that ere long they would make me amends at their Houses. Three days after, *Harthemonerick* invited me to dine with him, and treated me very nobly. 'Twas in their time of *Lent*, which began

16 *Monsieur De la Neuville's*

began the day before ; so the Treat was of Fish catcht in the *Caspian Sea*, and the *Volga*. To shew me the more honour, he brought in his Lady, and presented her to me ; I saluted her after the *French* Fashion, and she drank to me in a Cup of Brandy, and then gave it me to pledge her. She's the only Woman in the Country that never uses any Paint, and indeed she's pretty handsome.

Prince *Galischin* was to have been with us ; but the young *Czar* having sent for him in the Morning, we contented ourselves with drinking his and some other Healths till Midnight. The Guests were the same that were at my House. This young Lord has a great deal of Wit, speaks *Latin* well, loves Reading, is mightily pleas'd to hear talk of what is doing in *Europe*, and has a particular inclination for Foreigners. I persuaded him to learn *French*, assuring him that being but two and twenty years old, he would easily be Master of it, and then might satisfie with ease his Passion for Books ; all good Authors Ancient and Modern being turn'd into that Language. He is Son of *Athemon*, a *Lithuanian*, and had a *Scotch* Woman to his Mother. He learnt *Latin* of a *Pole*, whom

whom his Father was allow'd to carry with him in his Exile. He was disgrac'd by *Theodore*, whose Prime Minister he was; after the Death of that Prince, being both recall'd, he had the grief just after their return from Banishment to see his Father assassinated in the Rebellion rais'd by *Couvanki*. The *Czars* had now been return'd from their Pilgrimage three days, and hearing nothing farther, I sent to young *Galischin* to know what I was to expect; he answer'd that the Council not judging fit to grant me an Audience before *Twelfth-day*, I was at my liberty either to go or stay, and that every thing was ready, go when I would. I was not a little surpriz'd at this alteration; but understanding by the *Danish* Commissary, that the *Naraskins* taking it ill that I had never paid them a Visit, and being jealous of the Entertainment I gave to *Galischin*, who began to decline in the *Czar's* favour, had taken such measures with *Emilian*, that the *Czar* had chang'd his Resolutions which that Favourite had inclin'd him to in my favour. I gladly accepted of an offer to be dismiss'd, and the more willingly, for that I had done the business I came into the Country about, little valuing the Audience that was promis'd

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18- *Monsieur De la Neuville's*

me, and even less the Honour they pretended I should receive in seeing the *Czars*. Besides, I was perfectly tir'd of the behaviour of these *Barbarians*, and heartily dissatisfi'd with having beheld in spite of me so much disorder and mischief as happen'd while I staid there, not daring to stir abroad, and having no other Company than my Pristave, who was a man of Sense, 'tis true, and very agreeable in Conversation, and wou'd have diverted me more, and lessen'd the uneasiness I underwent, had he been more open and free, and had not been restrain'd through fear, as one may easily judge, from discovering to me many curious Passages which he knew very well, and particularly concerning the Court, which have escap'd my knowledge; and I am not a little vex'd at it, for they would have been worth inserting into these Memoirs. I declar'd my Resolution by him to the Ministers, and two days after, being the 16th of *December*, set out for *Poland* with the same Attendance that came with me. The 20th, betimes in the Morning I reach'd *Smolensko*, and without delay presently went to pay my Respects to the *Palatin*, from whom I receiv'd a thousand Civilities; thence I continu'd

contin'd my Journey with the same *Priftave*, Interpreter and Soldiers, as far as *Kafme*, from thence to *Vilna*, and so to *Warsaw*, where I arriv'd Jan. 3. 1690. The reason of my making so much expedition, was, because the most convenient Season for travelling in *Muscovy* is the Winter; for that Country lying the lowest in *Europe*, and consequently being Marshy, in the Summer one can't go above four or five Leagues a-day, and often one must cut Wood to make Bridges to pass over the Marshes and Little Streams; for their Causeys, of which some are laid with Wood for 10 or 12 Leagues in length, are very ill kept, and frequently unserviceable; whereas in Winter they travel in Sleds, where a man lies as in a Bed, drawn by a single Horse over the Snow at a good rate; thus one may go Night and Day for 15 or 16 hours, and make a *German* League an hour with ease.

*The State of Muscovy from 1682.
to 1687.*

THE Czar Theodore Alexerwich, Son of the Czar Alexis Sancuelimich dy'd in the 22d year of his Age, leaving no Issue behind him. His Brother *John* and the Princess *Sophia* were of the same Venter; *Peter*, though the Younger, and by another Mother, succeeded him at first, his Elder Brother being incapable of governing; but soon after, *John* was Elected, Proclaim'd and Crown'd likewise, by the management of the Princess *Sophia* his Sister, though he was in the Falling-sickness, and was afflicted with it every Moon; his Brother *Theodore* dy'd of it. This Princess being ambitious of the Government, and well foreseeing that she might make her self Absolute Mistress of so great an Empire, because of the Weakness of *John*, and the Minority of *Peter*, who wou'd only have the Name and Title of *Czars*, and She all the Authority; and that She had nothing to fear but the Officers of the Crown, and the Grandees, who might oppose her Designs, each out of their particular

ticular Ambition, or all out of general discontent to see themselves govern'd by a Woman, she prevail'd upon *Courvanski* to be of her Party, and rais'd the *Estreles*, a kind of *Militia*, like the *Janisaries* of the Port, who under colour of revenging the Death of the *Czar Theodore*, who they gave out was poisoned, made so cruel a slaughter among the great Lords, that if to appease the Tumult, the Princess *Sophia*, perceiving they went farther than she intended, had not come out of the Imperial Palace and shew'd her self, they would have gone on to cut off the Innocent with the Guilty, and encreas'd the number of the Dead for the sake of plundering them; The *Boyars*, or Senators, and the Patriarch interpos'd likewise to stop the effusion of more Blood; and the heat of their fury being allay'd, the *Czarvitch Peter Alexerwich* was crown'd *Czar*, to the general joy of *Russia*.

This Prince is graceful and well made, and the acuteness of his Wit gives great hopes of a glorious Reign if he be guided by able Counsellors.

The Princess *Sophia* did not express much satisfaction upon this Occasion; she wou'd rather have had the Crown up-

22 Monsieur De la Neuville's

on the Head of *John Alexander* her Brother by the same Father and Mother, single without a Consort, who was rightful Successor; and her Ambition did not suffer her to conceal her uneasiness long, for she publicly withstood the Crowning of *Peter*, pretending 'twas doing wrong to his Elder Brother; 'twas to no purpose for the *Boyers* and the Patriarch to represent to her the incapacity of *John*, that he was an infirm Prince, blind, and impotent of Body: to gain her Point, she was resolv'd to make use of the *Estreles*, of which betwixt 18 and 28000 Regiments usually quarter in *Moscow* for the *Czar's* Guard; the *Boyar Countess*, President of the Chamber of these Soldiers, was her Creature, and so by open force she rais'd this great Body of Troops, Crown'd and proclaim'd *John* Chief *Czar* to reign jointly with *Peter*, and in conclusion by these means, both the Princes being very young, she got the Administration of the Government into her own hands. 'Twas hop'd that now all Troubles were at an end, and that every thing would rest in a perfect Calm; but there were Factions form'd in the *Militia*, which is compos'd partly of *Estreles*, and partly of the Citizens, who

who are most of them rich Merchants, and are fond of lishing themselves, and being counted Soldiers; when they mount the Guard they have Coats given them, which they return again, with this Circumstance, that they receive so many Blows with a Stick over the Buttocks as they have made Spots upon their Cloaths, when they give them in, for these Coats never go out of *Moscow* except those given to the *Esstreles*, who follow the *Czar* on Horseback into the Country; the Citizens are allow'd, when 'tis their turn to mount the Guard, to send a Servant in their rooms, they ordinarily buy off the Blows, by presenting a new Coat, whereby this Livery is always renew'd and kept neat.

The Court upon advice of some Design being on foot, for what reason is not known, but suspecting the *Czarian* House was in some danger, withdrew from *Moscow*, and retired into *Trinity* Convent, 12 *German* Leagues off; a few days after the *Militia* rose again, and the absence of the Court increasing the Tumult and Disorder, the *Boyar Cowvanski* let loose his *Esstreles* to plunder and murder all that were not of his Party, upon pretence of their being concern'd in the death of the

24 Monsieur De la Neuville's

late Czar; the Chief Physician to the Deceas'd *Theodore*, accus'd of poisoning his Master, was cut in pieces; the Grand Chancellor *Urrenimik Delgorouka*, and his Son, were assassinated. In a word, so exorbitant was their Licentiousness and Cruelty, that I find no pleasure in relating it. The Princess *Sophia* hearing what pass'd at *Moscow*, sent to compliment the *Boyar Cowdanski* for the Zeal he had shewn in revenging the death of her Brother, assuring him that she was oblig'd to him for it; this she did out of policy to wheedle a Mad-man, who was to be fear'd with his Sword in his hand; at the same time these Cajolements were of very ill consequence in the end, and produc'd other Effects than she imagin'd: The *Boyar* believ'd, that after what he had done for her, and these Expressions of her Friendship and Acknowledgments, he might venture to do any thing, even to take the Crown; the thing appear'd to him very easy and feasible, he saw that the Massacres he had caus'd to be committed of all the most Considerable Noblemen, who had Interest and Power, and consequently might have stood in his way, were approv'd, nay that he was thank'd for his pains; he concluded, not without

without reason, that the Militia were entirely at his devotion, after having indulg'd them in their Plundering; he persuaded himself that not a man of them but wou'd blindly undertake any thing he shou'd put them upon, some out of gratitude, and others in hopes of gain, and of making their Fortunes in a Revolution: Moreover he had insinuated into them a great contempt of the *Czars*; of *John* upon the account of his Infirmities and Incapacity, and of *Peter* for his want of Years, and that it was to be expected in all likelihood he would be subject to the same Distemper his Brother had, and so there was no hopes of seeing a Prince upon the Throne that wou'd value Courage and Merit, and know how to recompence them: In fine, he determin'd to push his Fortune, but he consider'd, that to accomplish his Ends with greater decency, 'twas expedient for him to make an Alliance with the *Czarian* Family, which wou'd better disguise his Designs, and give some colour to the execution of them, when he shou'd attempt it. He propos'd then a Marriage between his Son and the Princess *Catherine*, younger Sister to the Princess *Sophia*; but his boldness had not that success he expected,

expected, the Court was pleas'd at the insolence of the Offer, and reflecting that such an Alliance cou'd not but be prejudicial to the safety of the young *Czars*, the Princess *Sophia* her self found a way to prevent an Inconvenience so dangerous to the Empire of the *Russians*; judging wisely that her Authority was in greater hazard from the Ambition of *Couvanski*, than from all those whom she had caus'd to be murder'd, and was first persuaded that he ought to be dispatch'd and punish'd for all those Crimes, the greatest part of which she had consented to. 'Tis a Custom in *Muscovy* to celebrate the Birth-days of the Royal Family with great solemnity; the Prince or Princess, whose Birth-day it is, makes a Feast, and receives the Compliments of the Nobility; the Court resolv'd to celebrate in *Trinity Convent* the Feast of St. *Catherine*, whose name that Princess bore, which the *Boyar Couvanski* design'd for his Son: The Princess *Sophia* gave notice of it to all the *Boys*, and in particular invited *Couvanski*, who continued his Cruelties at *Moscow*, which the Princess seemingly approv'd of; mean time 'twas contriv'd how to rid themselves of this Aspirer to the Throne, the Prince

Boyar

Boyar Bazile Bafilervick Galifchin, of whom we shall have occasion to speak further in the Sequel of our Story, advis'd not to delay the matter; and accordingly there was no time lost, for he was way-laid by 200 Horsemen in the Road to *Trinity-Convent*, was seiz'd and carri'd into a House, where his Sentence was read to him, and both he and his Son beheaded. The *Esstrels* were astonish'd when they first heard of it, it stunn'd 'em like a Clap of Thunder, but they soon recover'd out of their Surprise, and grew furious and enrag'd; they ran up and down, and exclaim'd they had lost their Father, and protested solemnly and unanimously they would take Vengeance upon his Murtherers and all their Adherents of what Quality soever. They possess'd themselves instantly of the Arsenals and Ammunition, and seem'd to threaten a general Destruction. The Court perceiving the danger the State was in, rais'd the other Forces, who have ever born an implacable hatred to the *Esstrels*, and commanded the *German* Officers, who are very numerous among 'em, to render themselves without delay at *Trinity-Convent*. Every one of 'em obey'd their order, left their Wives and Children,

28 Monsieur De la Neuville's

Children, to serve their Prince; nor was any man withheld from his duty, through fear of their Families being ill used by the *Esstres* for their Loyalty to the *Czars*. At the same time they had reason to be jealous of them; for the *Germans* dwelt in the Suburbs of *Moscow*, in that part call'd *Kakowvi*, and the *Esstres* really went thither in their first Fury, with design to butcher all they met with; but they were restrain'd by some of their old Comrades, who represented to 'em very prudently, That if they put to the Sword the *Germans* Wives, their Husbands as soon as they had drawn together their Troops, would think of nothing but Revenge: That they would never rest till they had cut 'em off to the last man with an irreconcilable Enmity; and that there was no hopes of Peace or Pardon, after so bloody an Action. The *Esstres* considering on't were persuaded to spare them; and now their hearts sinking, and seeing themselves without a Leader, they sought to make their Peace, which they found the Court readily dispos'd to grant, for in truth they had no great Stomach to new Broils. So the Militia first kill'd their Collonels and other Officers, and then sent Messengers to Court to ask Pardon;

don; they obtain'd it without much difficulty, and immediately the *Czars* came to *Moscow*, accompanied by the Nobility and the *German* Officers. The *Estrelles* met them, prostrated themselves upon the ground, and cried for Mercy: The *Czars* having made a sign that they forgave them, the Penitent Soldiers rais'd themselves up, conducted the *Czars* to the Palace, and pour'd out Tears of Joy to see their Princes return'd into their Capital City in so mild a Disposition.

The same day Prince *Bazile Basilerpick* was created Grand Chancellor, and *Wrenimienk*, or Temporary Minister of the State, that is, Administrator of the Empire during a limited time. This Prince *Galischin* is, without dispute, one of the Ablest, most Ingenious, and Polite Persons that ever was in this Country, which he nobly design'd should make as good a Figure as the rest of *Europe*. He speaks *Latin* very correctly, and is mildly pleas'd with the Conversation of Foreigners, and treats 'em without forcing them to drink to excess; he drinks no Brandy himself, for he delights in Discourse altogether.

Having little value for the great Lords because of their insufficiency, he regarded

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Having little value for the great Lords because of their insufficiency, he regarded

ed nothing but merit, and preferr'd none but such as he judg'd worthy, and would be faithful to him.

This Chancellor began his Administration with an exact Scrutiny after those *Estreles* that were culpable, he executed the Ring-Leaders, and banish'd others. Four Regiments were form'd of these Exils, one was sent away to *Bialograd* situated upon the Frontiers of *Tartary*, another to *Seberka*, upon the *Volga* in the Kingdom of *Cazan*, the third to *Kourskay*, in the *Ukrain*, and the fourth to *Sueksa* in the same Province. This Affair being settled, Prince *Galischin* seiz'd upon the Offices that were vacant by the Death of those that fell in the Massacre, and among others of the *Precafnuy Zemeskes*, or War-Office, in which are kept the Accounts of the Forces that are upon the Foreign Establishment, Foot, Horse, and Dragoons.

This Employment had been formerly manag'd by a Boyar Senator of the *Prekaz Bialtouski*, or Office of the White *Roupee*, in which the Affairs of the *Cosagues* and of the *Ukrain*, are commonly decided. The Chancellor pitch'd upon *Zelickelavitau*, a Wealthy man, and one of the under Secretaries of State, to be Supreme

Supreme Judge over the *Esfreles*, which is the next Post to the *Boyar Senator*. He likewise gave to his Cousin German, the *Precaz Casanski*, or Office in which the Affairs of *Casow*, *Dashtan*, and *Circassia* are treated. To *Dominik Emilian Verexan*, the *Morafeuski Precaz* or Office for the Towns situated upon the *Tanais*. The *Caspa*, or Great Treasury was conferr'd upon the *Alkalnik Talakoron* of the *Dworski Precaz*; that is, the Chamber of the Revenues of the Crown. In short all these Offices formerly held by the *Boyar Senators*, who were all able to perplex the Chancellor in his undertakings, were fill'd up with Persons who would be willing to be his Creatures, and not his Collegues. This procedure drew upon Prince *Galischin*, the hatred of all the Noble Families, to see themselves excluded from their Prerogatives, and oblig'd to make their Court to him more obsequiously than they had done to his Predecessors. But this did not hinder him from exerting his Authority, and ordering every thing as he judg'd most for his advantage. He advis'd the making of a General Peace with the *Swedes*, whose Ambassadors being then at *Moscow*, had all their demands

mands granted. Some years after the Conclusion of this Treaty, the *Imperialists* and *Poles* were engag'd in a War with the *Turks*. The first wou'd engage the *Muscovites* to make a League with them, but their Embassy came to nothing; the *Poles* took this occasion to propose a General Peace, and to get the *Muscovites* to be on their side, which end they sent an Embassy to *Moscow*, compos'd of three Lords of the Crown, and three of *Lithuania*; the Palatine of *Poznan* Grzementarvick, and the Counts *Przemski* and *Potourski*, were those on the part of the Crown; the Grand Chancellor, his Nephew *Oquenoki*, and Count *Sapiha*, where those for *Lithuania*, the last was detain'd in *Poland* by the Death of his Brother; but the other five arriv'd safe at *Moscow*. After divers Conferences, and even after their Audience of *Congè* they came to an Accommodation, the *Poles* gave up their Pretensions to the *Ukrain*, or Country of the *Cossacks*, to the Dutchy of *Smolensko*, and other Territories conquer'd by the *Muscovites*; and the *Czars* obliged themselves to make War upon the *Precopts*, and oppose their Incurfions into *Poland*. This Agreement was solemnly ratifi'd, the

the Ambassadors were treated, and the *Czars* themselves drank to them by a great Lord, after having laid their hands upon the Cup; an Honour which had never before been conferr'd upon Persons of their Character.

Upon this the *Muscovites* sent Ambassadors to all the Courts in *Chrißendom*; to animate them to a General League against the *Turks*. The Boyar *Borice Pietrewick Cberemitan* was sent to *Poland*, and thence to *Vienna*: The *Kenas Jacob Sendrewick Dolgoroka, Espalenick* or Gentleman of the *Czars* Bed-Chamber was sent into *France* and *Spain*; he is of the most Ancient Family in the Country; he mightily admir'd the most Christian King, and has declar'd, that tho his Master was affronted in *France*, he likes that Court better than that of *Spain*, where the *Czar* was better treated. His Nephew, whom he left in *France* to learn the Language, is the only *Muscovite* that speaks *French*. There are but Four throughout this vast Country that can talk *Latin*, and they are beholden for it to their *Polish* Tutors. In short, every Prince in *Europe* had an Envoy from the *Czars* upon this occasion. They prepar'd to take the Field in 1687, and enter the

D

Crim:

34 Monsieur De la Nerville's

Crim: The Choice of their General took up some time; Prince *Galischin* nominated several Lords fit for that Command; but he was told on all hands, that since he had made up the Peace with *Poland*, he ought to give himself the trouble of trying whether the Conquest of *Precop* was so easy as he imagin'd. He did all he could to excuse himself from this Employ; rightly conjecturing he should find great difficulties, and all the ill success would be laid at his door, notwithstanding his utmost Precaution and Prudence. That tho' the Army he commanded was formidable for Numbers, yet they were but a multitude of raw undisciplin'd Peasants, with whom he could never undertake any vigorous Action, and come off with Honour. Being a greater Statesman than Soldier, he foresaw that his Absence might do him more Prejudice than the Conquest of the *Crim* bring him Glory; and especially seeing he could not raise himself higher by it, nor have a greater Sway in the Government by commanding the Army: He saw besides, that those who insisted most upon his taking this Charge, did it only out of the Jealousy they had of him, and with design to ruin him, under a specious shew of

of honouring him with the Title of *Generalissimo*.

'Tis true, the Lords that press'd it most, were those that did not consent to the Agreement with the *Poles*; besides, they understood very well, how difficult such an Invasion of the *Crim* would prove, and were glad to remove *Galischin* from *Moscow*, that his too great Authority might be lessen'd by his Absence. The Majority voted *Galischin* General, to his great discontent, and so he was bound in Honour to take upon him the Conduct of the Expedition. The Particulars of which take as follows.

The Expedition of the Muscovites
into the *Crim*, from 1687 to
1689.

AFTER mature Debates in Council, the *Muscovites* being determin'd to send a Numerous Army into the Lesser *Tartary*, chose Prince *Galischin Worodé*; *Bolschoy*, or *Generalissimo*: The *Boyar Alexis Simonewich Cbein*, *Woyevodé* of *Novogrodiski*, General of the Forces of
Cazan:

136 Monsieur De la Neuville's

Cazan: The Domini of *Uvoranin Irran* Georbarrich Lerrenteteau *Voivode Dartolski*, General of a small Body of *Cossacks*, and other light-arm'd Troops, who always march before the Army, and may properly be call'd the Forlorn Hope. The *Akalnick Levanti Romanorrick Plekwan*, *Voivode of Serene*, General of the Forces of Serene: And *Kentas*, the Prince *Michael Andrumich Galischin*, *Voivode of Biologrod*, General of the Forces of *Biologrod*; he was Cousin German to the great *Galischin*; he had so great a Love for Foreigners, that when he set out to his Government, he carried with him as many as were willing to accompany him, and among the rest a *Frenchman*, who taught him the Language.

All the Princes of the *White Russia* being thus provided with Leaders, and the *Cossacks* with their *Hettmans*, 'twas consulted how to raise Ammunition and Provisions for them. All the Subjects of the great Empire of the *Czars* were immediately tax'd at a *Rouble* a House; and the Value of a *Rouble* being Five *French Livres*, we leave the Reader to judge what an immense Sum it amounted to.

Prince

Prince *Galitschin* obtain'd further, that his Son should be made his Collegue in the Chancellorship; which was a new Mark of the Princess's Esteem for him.

The General *Rendezvouz* was appointed in the *Vkrain*, in the Countrey of those *Cossacks* who are independent of the *Hettman*, and are commanded by *Polkowniks*, or Collonels. The Forces of *Moscow* were quarter'd at *Arteek*; those of *Novogrod* at *Auski*; those of *Cazan* at *Rouplauski*; those of *Serene* at *Krassenkoust*; and those of *Bialogrod*, who were to remain upon the Frontiers, were posted at *Bialogrod*. The *Hettman* drew together his Troops at *Calitch*; and all the Army being order'd to be at their Stations by the first of *March*, the Soldiers march'd all the Winter of 1686; and the first of *May* they muster'd, and took the Field 300000 Foot, and 100000 Horse, and encamp'd beyond the River *Marie*: In a few days they began their March by the way of *Poltaw*, a Town belonging to the *Hettman*; and advanc'd as far as *Scarfin*, upon the River *Avot*, where they made a halt for some days, to stay for a certain Image of the Virgin, which was reputed to work Miracles, by the credulous *Muscovites*. A Monk assur'd the

38 *Monſieur De la Neuville's*

Generals that he had been bleſſed with a Viſion, in which the Virgin told him, That without her their Attempt upon the *Crim* ſhould be unſucceſſful, and therefore they muſt take her Image with them. The Commanders out of Compliance, and the Soldiers out of Superſtition, to which the *Muſcovites* are addicted the moſt of any people in the world, tarried here 15 days, and did not ſet forward till they had receiv'd the miraculous Image with all the Ceremonies requiſite. *June* the 15th, they reach'd *Samare-Rzeka*, which as well as the other Rivers before-mention'd, falls into the *Borifhenes*; they made Bridges, and the Army paſſed over it with all Expedition. The 20th they left *Samare*, keeping the *Borifhenes* upon their right, and encamp'd next at *Tartarska-Rzeka*, or River of the *Tartars*; from *Tartarska-Rzeka* they march'd to *Moſcau-Rzeka*; thence to *Kaminka*, thence to *Kouſkiorda*, and thence to *Kerachetſa*; whence the Army could paſs no further, becauſe of the Drought, which was ſo great, that for 50 Leagues round they were inform'd the Sun had burnt up the Graſs, ſo that there was no ſtirring further for want of Forage. The General greatly ſurpriz'd at

at this News, was forc'd to alter his Measures; he chang'd the design of ruining the *Cham* with his 50000 men, to a speedy Retreat, and so he broke up from *Kerackekesa*, and came and pitch'd upon the Banks of the *Borisbena*, both for the convenience of Foraging where the River had overflow'd, and likewise to facilitate his return: For 'twas reasonable to suppose that the *Tartars* would come and fall upon the Army, which indeed was strong enough, but extremely embarrass'd with so prodigious a Train to carry their Baggage, that I have heard the *German* Officers affirm there were above a Million of Horses; which seems incredible, but yet may be true; for in an Army of 24000 men that the King of *Poland* led to the Black Sea in 1686, there were 45000 Waggon. 'Tis evident, abundance of Men and Horses must needs perish by the excessive Heats, and want of Forage; the Bloody Flux, and want of Victuals fit to be eaten, swept away great numbers, and rendred more unfit for Service; for the Soldiers were forc'd to feed upon Salt-fish half putrified, to keep *Lent*, which the *Russians* hold in *August*. Nevertheless a Detachment of 30000 men, headed by *Levanti*

49 Monsieur De la Neuville's

Romanorrick, Commander of the Forces of Serene, was order'd to advance as far as Zarpargay, with intent to make the Tartars believe that the *Muscovites* had none of their Army left. The *Hettman* Juan Samueleppick's Son was sent out likewise with a Body of *Cossacks*. The rest of the Army march'd back to the River *Samaré*, where the Prince, ordering the Situation of the Place, projected to build a City there, to bridle the *Cossacks*, and even the *Tartars*, tho the last can enter *Russia* on several sides. The next year this City was actually begun, as shall be told in the Sequel. From the River of *Samaré* they removed to the River *Marle*, where they waited for Orders from *Moscow* to disband the Army. And in the mean time the Prince, to excuse himself at Court for the ill success of his Campaign, left no Stone unturn'd to lay the blame of his Misfortune upon the *Hettman* Juan Samueleppick; and notwithstanding that he was powerful, and commanded all the *Ukrain*, which revolted from the *Poles* in the Reign of *Ladislaus* the last of that Name, tho he has 100000 of the Militia always ready to take the Field; yet *Galiscien*, having the Princess on his side, contriv'd to ruin him.

him. He wrote to Court, charg'd the *Hettman* with being the cause of all that had happen'd, and solicited an Order to depose him, and chuse another into his Place. This Order being come, *Galischin* caus'd the *Hettman* to be seiz'd at midnight by those very *Esheres* which he had desired for his Guard; because he mistrust'd the *Cossacks*: He was carried bound in Cords to a place within the Main Body of the Army, call'd *Chatra*, that is to say, the Tent of Justice, which in all the *Russian* Armies is constantly pitch'd in the General's Quarter: In the Morning *Galischin* summon'd all the Officers and Noblemen to attend him in a Body: The *Boyar* Generals took their Seats, and the *Hettman* was brought before them: the Emperor's Order was first read to him; then they confronted him with the principal *Cossacks*, who were taught their Lesson, and accused him of holding Intelligence with the *Cham*, and directing him privately to burn up the Forage. The poor General found his Fortune quickly chang'd; instead of *Vielmozyr*, or Most Puissant, they saluted him with *Scourveterin*, or Son of a Whore; nay, his own Servants lost all Respect to him, and one of his Colonels,

nels, named *Dnarrouki*, drew out his Sabre to kill him; but *Galischin* prevented the Blow, and told him, the *Hettman* was there to be Tried Judicially, and not to be Butchered. This Council of War being broke up, and the *Hettman* put under a sure Guard, a Courier was dispatch'd to *Levant* *Romanorrick* with Orders for him to secure the *Hettman's* Son, who was detach'd at the same time with *Romanorrick*; but some faithful *Cossacks* were got thither before him, and warn'd him to save himself. *Romanorrick* could not easily come at him, for he kept with his Troops perpetually as far off as he could; but the principal *Cossacks* being acquainted with the Order to seize their Leader, the *Compachiks*, or the Cavalry, agreed to deliver him up; the *Sardouchiks* or Infantry encompass'd his Tent, and would not permit him to be taken; but at length they suffer'd themselves to be prevail'd upon, and so with a general Consent the *Hettman's* Son was put into *Romanorrick's* Hands, who being proud of his Prey, and over-joy'd that he had now an opportunity of repairing his Credit, which he had lost in a Skirmish with *Sultan Naradin*, near

Kamiston

Kamisson upon the *Niepa*, return'd with his Prisoner to the Army.

While they were seizing the Son, the *Boyar* Generals consulted how to punish the Father, and set up another *Hettman*. *Samuelerrich* was sent into *Ziberia*, and the *Cossacks* chose one *Mazepa*, *Pisazy* or Secretary of State, and proclaim'd him *Hettman*. This Prince is not comely in his Person, but a very knowing Man, and speaks *Latin* in perfection. He is a *Cossack* born, and was one of King *Cazimir's* Pages, and afterwards an Officer in his Guards. He is a very good Friend to the *Poles*.

Thus Prince *Galischin* succeeded in his Design; but a great Party of *Cossacks*, who were not call'd to the Election, expres'd their dislike of it; some Towns revolted, and some of the Colonel's Houses were pillag'd in their absence: The new *Hettman* being minded to quell these Disorders, desir'd some Troops of *Galischin*, who gave him three thousand Foot of the Forces of *Smolensko*, and a thousand Horse to attend him to *Baturin*, where the *Hettmans* usually reside.

The Order to disband the Army arriv'd soon after with a Letter from their Czarish

40 Monsieur De la Neuville's

Romanorrick, Commander of the Forces of *Serene*, was order'd to advance as far as *Zarparogny*, with intent to make the *Tartars* believe that the *Muscovites* had none of their Army left. The *Hettman Juan Samueleerrick's* Son was sent out likewise with a Body of *Cossacks*. The rest of the Army march'd back to the River *Samare*, where the Prince observing the Situation of the Place, projected to build a City there, to bridle the *Cossacks*, and even the *Tartars*, tho the last can enter *Russia* on several sides. The next year this City was actually begun, as shall be told in the Sequel. From the River of *Samare* they removed to the River *Marle*, where they waited for Orders from *Moscow* to disband the Army. And in the mean time the Prince, to excuse himself at Court for the ill success of his Campaign, left no Stone unturn'd to lay the blame of his Misfortune upon the *Hettman Juan Samueleerrick*; and notwithstanding that he was powerful, and commanded all the *Ukrain*, which revolted from the *Poles* in the Reign of *Ladislaus* the last of that Name, tho he has 100000 of the Militia always ready to take the Field; yet *Galiscin*, having the Princess on his side, contriv'd to ruin him.

him. He wrote to Court, charg'd the *Hettman* with being the cause of all that had happen'd, and solicited an Order to depose him, and chuse another into his Place. This Order being come, *Galichin* caus'd the *Hettman* to be seiz'd at midnight by those very *Estreles* which he had desired for his Guard; because he mistrusted the *Cossacks*; He was carried bound in Cords to a place within the Main Body of the Army, call'd *Chatra*, that is to say, the Tent of Justice, which in all the *Russian* Armies is constantly pitch'd in the General's Quarter: In the Morning *Galichin* summoned all the Officers and Noblemen to attend him in a Body: The *Boyar* Generals took their Seats, and the *Hettman* was brought before them; the Emperor's Order was first read to him; then they confronted him with the principal *Cossacks*, who were taught their Lesson, and accused him of holding Intelligence with the *Cham*, and directing him privately to burn up the Forage. The poor General found his Fortune quickly chang'd; instead of *Viehmozny*, or Most Puissant, they saluted him with *Scourvecin*, or Son of a Whore; nay, his own Servants lost all Respect to him, and one of his Colonels,

nels, named *Dimitrouki*, drew out his Sabre to kill him; but *Galischin* prevented the Blow, and told him, the *Hettman* was there to be Tried Judicially, and not to be Butchered. This Council of War being broke up, and the *Hettman* put under a sure Guard, a Courier was dispatch'd to *Levanti Romanorrick* with Orders for him to secure the *Hettman's* Son, who was detach'd at the same time with *Romanorrick*; but some faithful *Cossacks* were got thither before him, and warn'd him to save himself. *Romanorrick* could not easily come at him, for he kept with his Troops perpetually as far off as he could; but the principal *Cossacks* being acquainted with the Order to seize their Leader, the *Compachiks*, or the Cavalry, agreed to deliver him up; the *Sardonchiks* or Infantry encompass'd his Tent, and would not permit him to be taken; but at length they suffer'd themselves to be prevail'd upon, and so with a general Consent the *Hettman's* Son was put into *Romanorrick's* Hands, who being proud of his Prey, and over-joy'd that he had now an opportunity of repairing his Credit, which he had lost in a Skirmish with *Sultan Naradin*, near

Kamifon

Kamisson upon the *Nieper*, return'd with his Prisoner to the Army.

While they were seizing the Son, the Boyar Generals consulted how to punish the Father, and set up another *Hettman*. *Samuelerrich* was sent into *Ziberia*, and the *Cossacks* chose one *Mazepa*, *Pisazy* or Secretary of State, and proclaim'd him *Hettman*. This Prince is not comely in his Person, but a very knowing Man, and speaks *Latin* in perfection. He is a *Cossack* born, and was one of King *Cazimir's* Pages, and afterwards an Officer in his Guards. He is a very good Friend to the *Poles*.

Thus Prince *Galischin* succeeded in his Design; but a great Party of *Cossacks*, who were not call'd to the Election, express'd their dislike of it; some Towns revolted, and some of the Colonel's Houses were pillag'd in their absence: The new *Hettman* being minded to quell these Disorders, desir'd some Troops of *Galischin*, who gave him three thousand Foot of the Forces of *Smolensko*, and a thousand Horse to attend him to *Baturin*, where the *Hettmans* usually reside.

The Order to disband the Army arriv'd soon after with a Letter from their Czarish

Czarish Majesties, which was read in the presence of all the Officers, and very well pleas'd they were to hear themselves thank'd for their good Services. Every General had a Golden Medal given him, having the two Emperors Effigies on one side, and the Princess's on the other, fasten'd to a Chain of Gold, the whole worth ten Ducats; every Colonel had a Medal without a Chain, worth a Ducat; each Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, one of half a Ducat; and every Soldier and *Estrelle* had a Copique of Gold, of about twenty five Pence in value, a Silver Copique is worth no more than one. Prince *Galischin* by means of these Presents, which he obtain'd of the *Czars*, or rather of the Princess, to be given to the Army, appeas'd the Murmurs that were rais'd through the Army against him. He likewise gain'd the Chief Noblemen by bestowing Employments upon them that reimburs'd their Expences; insomuch that at his arrival at *Moscow* he found no body against him; he was receiv'd by the Princess with all the Marks of Favour he could wish, and took the Management of the State upon him with as much Authority as ever.

The

The first thing that *Galischin* propos'd to the Council, was the Advantages that would arise from building a City upon the River *Samare*, in which might be stor'd up Ammunitions of all sorts: The matter being approv'd, the *Akalnik Levanti Romanorrick* was ordered to put himself at the Head of 30000 Men, and go and build the City. The *Hettman* with his Troops had the same Commands, and the place being mark'd out by a *Dutch* Colonel and Engineer, nam'd *Wasale*, these Forces met at *Niski*, and march'd to *Samare* by the last day of *May*. In a Months time the City was finish'd, for 'twas little better than an Entrenchment to stop the Incursions of the *Tartars* and *Cossacks*, and nam'd *Novobogrodiba*, or Town of our Lady the Widow: A Garrison was left in it, and the rest return'd; the *Akalnik*, as a reward for his good Services was made a *Boyar*; and 'twas found by experience in the Campaign of 1689. that this City was of great use in supplying the Army with all Necessaries out of its Magazines.

The

*The Expedition of the Muscovites
into the Grim, in 1689.*

PPrince Galitschin perceiving that the
 Czar Peter's Party grew stronger
 every day, and fearing their Power
 would encrease in his Absence, endea-
 vour'd underhand by all means to get
 the Command of the Army given to
 somebody else this Campaign; but find-
 ing it very difficult to compass his De-
 sign, he frankly offer'd himself, judg-
 ing rightly that 'twas more honourable
 for him to propose it voluntarily, than
 stay to see himself compell'd to accept
 of it; and he took such measures as he
 thought proper to make this Campaign
 more prosperous than the first; for this
 Prince was a better Politician than a
 Captain, and having easily obtain'd
 what he thought fit to demand, 'twas
 resolv'd the Army should take the Field
 sooner than they did in the former Cam-
 paign; the ill Success of which was owing
 to the slowness of their Motions;
 wherefore all the Forces were appointed
 to be at the Rendezvous on the first of
February. Which Order was punctually
 obser-

observed; the Troops began to march from all Parts in *December*, except those of *Ziberia*, who because of the War which they maintain against the Inhabitants of *Great Tartary*, their Neighbours, are excus'd from sending any Soldiers. The Preparations were more formidable than those of the preceding Campaign. But the People were not tax'd higher than before, for they paid but one Rouble per House. The Forces of *Moscow* had their Quarters at *Sont*; those of *Novogrod* at *Riski*; those of *Cazan* at *Bagoudouka*; those of *Bialogrod* at *Kaminski*; those of *Serene* at *Kalentar*; all which Armies were commanded by the same Lords that serv'd in the first Expedition, except that of *Bialogrod*, which was given to *Borice Pitrowick Cherimetan*, upon the Death of *Michael Andrewich Galischin*; they did not lie long in their Quarters, for the General order'd all to march before the Frost was broke, beyond the River *Marle*, which was prudently order'd, because several Rivers that were to be cross'd in that March, make great Inundations when the Thaw comes. The Foot were encamp'd on the other side of the River at the entrance of a Wood; the Cavalry was posted

48 *Monsieur De la Neuville's*

posted in the Towns that are situated on the Banks. After he had staid for the Thaw, the Prince arriv'd and pitch'd his Tent on the further side of the River, *April* the 1st; the Generals did so likewise; and on the 6th they march'd towards the *Samare*, where all the Forces joyn'd.

The *Hettman Mezepa* came thither likewise; on the 13th they all pass'd the River without delay, and advanc'd as far as *Precop* in a Month's time: The Baggage hinder'd'em from making long Marches in a day, every Soldier carri'd with him Provision for four Months, besides what was distributed to them at *Samare*, and in the Desarts which they pass'd through; such a quantity of Provision very much encumber'd'em in their March; the Artillery consisting of 700 pieces of Cannon, and many Mortars, help'd to delay them the more; at length they arriv'd at *Keratchekesa*, and there encamp'd. The Horses were put to graze, for the Grass was too short to be mow'd, and the Troops repos'd themselves till Midnight, at which time they were alarm'd by a great Noise without the Camp, which the Neighing of Horses, and the Cries of Men, made very terrible.

ble. They believ'd they were surpriz'd by the *Tartars*; but 'twas discover'd that some Horses which had broke loose, and ran up and down, had caus'd this Disorder; next day they found that 6000 belonging to the Army of *Moscow* were run away into the Desert, though their Legs had been tied; whereupon they were oblig'd to halt to give every Man time to look for his Horse, and most of them were brought back to the Camp. Next day they decamp'd, and after some days arriv'd at *Kairka* upon the *Boristhenes*, where a Party took some *Muscovite Tartars*, of whom they learn'd that the *Cham* was not at *Precop*, but at *Budziac*, and that they had not the least Suspicion of so formidable an Army coming upon them; that indeed they had heard the Troops were upon the March, but thought 'twas only to Build some Place as they had done last Year, and that they themselves were sent by *Sultan Kalga*, to get Intelligence of the *Muscovites* designs. From *Kairka* they march'd to *Kairka Meschenfa*, where Prince *Gaischin* order'd every Waggon to carry some Fascines, Palisades, and some Water, because there was no Wood any further. From thence they left the *Boristhenes*,
E
and

50 Monsieur De la Neuville's

and march'd towards *Precop*, and the Army was two days without Water. *May* the 13th, they had word brought by their Scouts that the Enemy was at hand; they put themselves in Order to receive them; the Baggage guarded by the Foot, and Artillery march'd on the right, the Horse were posted on the left of every Division. The Forces of *Moscow* headed by Prince *Galischin* kept in the middle, the Forces of *Novogrod* mov'd on the right, the *Hettman* on the left; on the *Hettman's* left was *Cherremitan* and *Dolga Kourka*; and *Romanorick* made up the Rear. The *Tartars* charg'd the Vanguard of *Schein*, from thence, after some Skirmishes they wheel'd on a sudden from right to left, and fell upon *Cherremitan's* Forces, who being over-power'd, were quickly put to the rout: The Horse took to their Heels, the Enemy ran to the Baggage, which had like to have been carried off; but Prince *Galischin* presently sending Succours to *Cherremitan*, the *Tartars* were forc'd to retire, and leave the *Russians* a free passage till they got to *Thorna d'Oirua*, where they encamp'd for the convenience of Water, the place being Marshy, and five Leagues distant from

from *Precop*. A small Body of *Tartars*, under *Sultan Garka*, advanced to discover their Enemies march; and being desirous to know wherein the Weakness and Strength of the Army lay, took several Prisoners, from whom they drew such Information as they wanted. Then they carried them to the *Cham*, who lay but three Leagues off encamp'd at *Kalan-rechek*, a little River two Leagues from *Precop*, which rising in the Desert, runs into the *Palus Meotides*, or *Black-Sea*. For the *Cham* hearing the *Muscovites* had invaded the *Crim*, was come from *Budziac* with 4000 Horse to defend his Territories; he got to *Katanfchek* two days before the *Muscovites*, and pass'd the *Borissheues* at *Assenan Kirman*, a Town seated on that River belonging to the *Turks*. The 16th the Army decamp'd and mov'd to *Zelona Dolina*, a League from *Tharn*; here the *Cham* came to meet the *Muscovites* with all his Forces, which by what we are able to conjecture, might amount to thirty or forty thousand Horse, marching in several little Divisions. The *Russians* found themselves insensibly surrounded by the *Tartars*, and were oblig'd to halt.

They ftar'd upon one another, without attempting any thing, though one would have thought the *Mufcovites* fhould have begun the fight, but they were glad to keep themfelves out of harm, fenc'd in with ftrong Palifades, which were brought in the Waggon. The Foot and Artillery defended the Camp fo ftrenuously, that the *Tartars* could not break into it. The Horfe were not entrench'd, which invited three or four Detachments of *Tartars*; of 1000 Horfe each, to Charge them; they were no fooner attack'd but they fell into diforder, and the Baggage was very ferviceable to them, for from thence the Cannon and fmall Shot gall'd the *Tartars*, and laid three or four hundred of them upon the Ground, and with them feveral of the *Mufcovites*. Mean time, on the other fide, Sultan *Naradin* with his Troops charg'd the *Coffacks* of *Sent* and *Akrerko*, who were commanded by *Emilian*, *Everecunau Dominidiak*, or Secretary of State; he knew little what belong'd to War, and like a true *Mufcovite*, was fo frighted, that he could not ftand before the *Tartars*, who broke in among the Baggage, and killing the Horfes, prevented the *Mufcovites* from drawing

drawing off their Waggon; the Enemy pierc'd as far as the Center of those Waggon, and carried off twenty Pieces of Cannon, which they found mounted upon Carriages, and Horses harness'd to them. In short, if the *Boyar Rouka* had not advanc'd with his Troops, the *Cossacks* had been entirely cut off. *Cheremitan* was attack'd at the same time by another Body of *Tartars*, who broke in as far as his Baggage, but it must be own'd he defended himself much better than *Emilian*, and forc'd the *Tartars* to retire. He behav'd himself very handsomely on this occasion, having a stock of personal Courage, and being a Man of Merit, but a mortal Enemy to *Galischin*, who would gladly have been rid of him, and he had certainly been lost, but that he was seasonably succour'd. In these Skirmishes the *Tartars* being repuls'd, though the Advantage and some Plunder fell to them, the *Muscovites* mov'd forwards to get to some fresh Water; so the next day they march'd to *Kalentchek*, and forasmuch as they had found it inconvenient for the Cavalry to keep at a distance from the Baggage, they were order'd to mingle with the Waggon and Carriages, and

54 Monsieur De la Neuville's

and all the Army, which till then had been divided, joyn'd into one Body with 20000 Waggon, and made a square Figure, the Baggage as we said before was surrounded with the Cannon and Infantry, who carried their Pallisades upon their Shoulders to be the readier in planting them. As they march'd in this order, the *Tartars* appear'd again, and having view'd the Army on all sides, and found the Horse had secured themselves, they forbore Action, and were content to keep the *Muscovites* in fear of them; but they soon withdrew, and went to defend *Precep*, which they thought would be attempted by the numerous Army of the *Muscovites*. The same day the last encamped at *Kalansebek*, and next day pass'd the River, and saw no *Tartars*, which encourag'd several *Muscovites* to leave the Baggage, and ascend the Hills to discover *Precep*, which appear'd in Flames; for the *Tartars* had set Fire to the Suburbs lest the *Muscovites* should have possess'd themselves thereof. The 16th they march'd straight on to *Prerop*, and sat down within Cannon-shot of the Town, having the *Black-Sea* on their right, and the Desert on the left: They made no Shot from

from the Town, because 'twas too far to do Execution, but they fir'd incessantly from a Tower that stands on the Shore of the *Black-Sea*. 'Twas about Ten or Eleven a Clock when the *Muscovites* arriv'd here, and they thought of attacking *Precop* in the Night; but in the Evening, when the Officers came for Orders, they wonder'd to hear that they were to return next day. This retreat being somewhat extraordinary, 'tis worth while to give the Causes of it. The Army being encamp'd pretty near the Town, the *Nogays* and *Kalmoucks*, *Tartars*, Subjects to the *Muscovites*, skirmishing often with the *Precopians*, a *Nogay*, who serv'd the *Cham*, saw by chance a *Muscovite* of his Acquaintance, and call'd out to him: What do we contend for, said he? What occasion is there for us to fight together? Why don't you advise your *Boyar* to make Peace with our *Cham*? The *Muscovite* replied; That if the *Boyar* believ'd the *Cham* was that way inclin'd, he might be dispos'd to it likewise; but if the *Cham* had an earnest desire for Peace, he should send and treat about it. Very well, says the *Precopian Nogay*, do you break it to your *Boyar* or General, and assure him the

the *Cham* is willing to come to terms. The *Muscovite Nogay* goes presently to *Galischin*, and acquaints him with what the *Tartar* had said, and found the General lik'd the motion, and was very ready to return without coming to blows. Accordingly *Galischin* caus'd a Letter to be written in the Name of this *Muscovite* to the *Tartar Nogay*, to this purpose, *I have related to the Boyar Galischin what pass'd between us; he is content to come to an Accommodation; it lies upon you to get some Person to be sent to him with the Cham's Proposals.* This Letter being deliver'd to the first *Tartar* that appear'd, was carri'd to the *Cham*, who was consulting with his *Mul-taz* how to rid himself of so formidable an Enemy. The *Cham* having read it, sent to ask *Galischin*, whether 'twas written by his order; and being answer'd, Yes; he sent *Sailech Murza*; and the *Muscovites* a Lord, nam'd *Esmeyan*, in exchange for Hostages. The Treaty was set on foot. The *Muscovites* propos'd the five following Conditions: That all the *Russian* Slaves should be restor'd. That the *Tartars* should make no more Inroads into the *Czar's* Dominions. That they should quit their Claim to 80000 Crowns,

Crowns, annually due to them from the *Muscovites*; That they should not molest the *Poles*, nor assist the *Turks*. The *Murza* gave some hopes of an agreement, and spun out the Conference to keep 'em in suspense till next day, well knowing so great a multitude could not long subsist there without Forage and Water: but the next day he answer'd, That the *Cham* would accept of a Peace upon no other Terms than those he was already engag'd in with the *Czar*: That he insisted upon the Payment of the yearly Tribute, and expected to be paid 240000 Crowns in Arrears for the three last Years. Prince *Galischin* did not at all like this Answer; and judging it very inconvenient to lie longer encamp'd upon the Sandy Plain, resolv'd to retreat. For fear of being pursu'd, he took the *Murza* along with him as far as *Kalantzek*; and from thence sent him back, and receiv'd his own Hostage. This is a short Account of all this Campaign in the *Crim*.

After this they march'd for three weeks together to reach *Samare*; where leaving all the heavy Luggage behind them, they pass'd the River, and in six days more got to the River *Marle*. But in

in the mean time Prince *Galischin* dispatch'd Couriers to the *Czars*, and to the King of *Poland*, boasting that he had beaten the *Tartars*, and driven them in to their own Country. The Princes upon this News order'd publick Rejoicings throughout the Kingdom, and according to Custom sent an *Akalmik* with a Letter of Thanks and Commendations to all the Army, and Golden Ducats for Rewards: In conclusion, Orders for Disbanding the Army being come, the *Boyar Valenski* was left at the River *Samare* with about 5 or 6000 Men. This mighty Success had the *Moscovites* in their two great Expeditions into the *Crim*; which far from gaining them any honour or profit, on the contrary produc'd the greatest damage the Nation could ever suffer, in the Ruine of their General, which happen'd soon after his Return. I learn'd all that I have related, from the King of *Poland's* Ministers, who have resided at the *Czars* Court, and follow'd the Armies ever since the Death of the *Czar Theodore*, to this present. I shall next give the Particulars of the Troubles that I was an eye-witness of, having often ventur'd in disguise to go about the City, and even to *Trinity-Convent*.

A Relation of the Troubles in Moscow, occasion'd by the Princess Sophia, upon her Brother Peter's being made Czar.

PRince *Gaischin*, at his Return to *Moscow*, found Affairs in quite another posture than he expected; his Enemies had inform'd themselves of the truth of the matter, and render'd him odious to the *Czar Peter*. He was refus'd Audience, and hardly, through the intercession of the Princess, cou'd he be admitted to kiss the *Czar's* Hand; he underwent bitter Reproaches, and could not say any thing that would pass as a justification of his Conduct. For some days *Gaischin* was left at Quiet, but the Princess's Liberality gave occasion to new Commotions. She had a mind to distribute among the *Bojars* considerable Presents in recompence of the good service they had done to the Empire; but the *Czar* oppos'd it, and would enquire first into the Merits of their Services, that their Rewards might be proportionable. The Princess would bear no restraint, but found means to bring the *Czar* to a compli-

60 Monsieur De la Neuville's

compliance with her Desires. She gave then to Prince *Galischin* 1500 Peasants Houses, in several Villages; to other Commanders in the Army, 300; to other Officers, in proportion to their Stations, and likewise to all the Gentlemen that served in the Expedition, designing to make 'em all of her own Party. Such Gifts had never before been us'd to be bestow'd in *Muscovy*; the Czar always gave a Royal Vest to those they would honour, but no more.

Galischin govern'd with his usual Power; and being aided by the Princess, undertook a bold attempt. Ever since the *Hettmans* were under the *Muscovites* Dominions, they never enter'd *Moscow*. *Galischin*, under pretence of doing the *Hettman* the honour of presenting him to do homage to the Czar; but having another end in't, so order'd it, that *Mazepa* came to *Moscow* with 500 of his chief Officers, but could not be admitted to see the Czar. I went to him several times disguis'd in the night-time, accompany'd by a German Physician of the Czar's, who assur'd him of the King of *Poland's* Protection. The Czar *Peter* was then at one of his Country-Houses, call'd *Obrogensko*, situate upon the River *Tarus*, a short

Short League from *Moscow*, whilst the Princess *Sophia* and *Galitschin* laid a Plot, which we are going to give an account of. The Princess foresaw all along that the *Czar Peter's* Life wou'd one day be the ruin of her Authority, and a dangerous obstacle to her Ambition, in case she did not remove it in time; and now she repented that she had follow'd the wise and moderate Counsels of *Galitschin*; she reflected on the difficulty she met with in procuring him a disgraceful Audience; was concern'd at it, and the Reproaches that were made him; and though she had gain'd her Point in getting the *Czar* to consent she should bestow her Bounty as she pleas'd; yet she could not forget how dear it cost her, and what Oppositions she struggled with. All this she resented the more deeply, because she had rul'd the State without controul, according to her fancy, for several years; she judg'd rightly, that for the future she should not be so Absolute; and that the best she cou'd expect, was to have her Authority lessen'd, as her Brother's encreas'd, and guess'd 'twas upon that account he did not directly deny her; but that in process of time, instead of conferring Favours upon her, they

62 *Monsieur De la Neuville's*

they would take pleasure in crossing her Desires, which her Brother's Party would ever be ready to do, and to destroy her Creatures; and after all these Vexations, she should be oblig'd to quit the Court, and retire into her Convent.

These Considerations made this Princess, who is Ambitious and Daring above her Sex, resolve to venture all to maintain her self in the Post she was in. During her Regency, she had done what she could to engage all to be her Creatures, and 'twas with the same design that she bestow'd those Presents on the Army, though under colour of rewarding their Services; for she thought they would think themselves more oblig'd to her upon the score of such valuable Gifts, than they could have been to the *Czar* for a Vest, with which his Predecessors us'd to gratify 'em. She assur'd Prince *Galischin* he ought to apprehend that their Enemies would not be satisfied with diminishing her Power by degrees, but would proceed further, and force her to return to her Convent; which could not be effected without involving Himself, his Family and Friends, in her Fall. — He was prevail'd upon by these Reasons; and though he was prudent and discreet, and

and naturally averse to all violent Counsels, he no longer oppos'd her design; he desir'd only, before she put it in execution, that he might send his eldest Son into *Poland* upon a feign'd Embassy, with the greatest part of his Riches, whither he might shelter himself from the storm which he saw coming upon him, and knew not what would be the issue of it. But the impatient Princesses overrul'd him; she represented to him, that they were not to lose a minute; that his precaution was needless, being they were certain of success. After she had taken such measures as she had long before concluded upon, she determin'd at last to give the Blow; and pitch'd upon *Theodore Thetelavitan* for the purpose; he was President of the Chamber of *Estreles*, and was rais'd by the Princess from a mean Scrivener to be an *Akalnik* or Sword-bearer, a Dignity next to that of *Boyar* Senator. This *Theodore* promis'd to execute the Princess's Order punctually. He drew together at the Castle of the *Crim*, where the Czar and the Patriarch usually reside, and in which all the Courts of Judicature are held, 600 *Estreles*, all trusty Fellows, Commanded by Collonel *Rojannau*; *Theodore* put himself

64 *Monfieur De la Neuville's*

self at the head of them, and commanded them to follow him to *Obrogensko*; but whilst he was giving out his Orders, two of his *Estreles*, whose hearts misgave them, resolv'd not to stain their hands with their Prince's Blood; and stealing off, they ran and gave notice to the *Czar Peter*, who in a dreadful Conspiration leap'd out of bed, sent for his Uncles, his Mother's Brothers, and consulted in all haste what was to be done. 'Twas resolv'd to send to the City to enquire into the certainty of the matter; one of the *Czar's* Uncles, and Prince *Borice*, were dispatch'd upon this Errand, who in their way met *Thekelavitan* at the head of his *Estreles*; they hid themselves whilst they pass'd by them, and then hasten'd back to save the *Czar*. *Peter* had but just time enough to get into his Coach with his Mother, his Wife, and her Sister, and follow'd by some faithful Servants, he fled towards *Trinity-Convent*. The Conspirators being arriv'd, search'd all about for the *Czar*; but the *Estreles* of the Prince's Guard knowing nothing of the matter, and amaz'd at his sudden flight, told their President or Judge that his Majesty was gone with all the speed he could.

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Thekelavitan having mis'd his aim, next day return'd to the Princes, whom he found no less concern'd than himself at their disappointment. Every body in *Moscow* was astonish'd at the News of this flight, for none could divine what should be the Cause of it; but towards Evening 'twas known that the *Czar Peter* had sent to the Princes to reproach her with her Treachery, and that she denied the matter absolutely, and protested they had been deceived in taking those for Conspirators who came only to relieve the Guard, and that they wrong'd her extremely in thinking she could harbour so black a design as to kill her Brother. This Excuse of Relieving the Guards appear'd a weak one to most people, for they usually reliev'd them in the day-time, and these *Espreles* came to *Obrogensko* at night. But be that as it will, the *Czar Peter* being got safe into *Trinity-Convent*, wrote to all the *Boysars* to render themselves there without delay; he wrote also to all the Gentry, and sent Orders to all the Towns to raise the *Militia*; and having publish'd throughout the Empire *Thekelavitan's* Attempt, they came in to him from all Parts, and in less than eight days he had a nume-

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F

rous Body of the Gentry about him ; immediately he sent Orders to *Galitschin* to attend him at *Trinity-Convent*, but he excus'd himself upon pretence of being withheld by the *Czar John*.

Mean time the Princess did all she could to get the *Estreles* on her side ; she call'd together all the *Piecestniks* and *Diecestnites*, Subaltern-Officers, who on such occasions can prevail more with the Soldier than their Colonels ; and having order'd them to be planted at the foot of the Stairs, the *Czar John* and she coming from Mass, stood at the top of the Stairs ; whence the *Czar* spoke to them to this purpose : *My Brother is retir'd into Trinity-Convent, I know not for what reason ; doubtless he designs to disturb the Peace of the State, and, as I am told, has command-ed you to attend him ; but we forbid you upon pain of Death to obey his Order.*

The Princess reiterated this Prohibition ; but the *Estreles* little heeded it : They march'd to *Trinity*, and assur'd the *Czar Peter* of their Fidelity ; which the Princess having consider'd, and that most of the *Boyers* had joyn'd with *Peter*, she resolv'd to make her Peace with him ; to which end she sent to her Brother two of his Aunts, his Father's Sisters, the

the Princess *Ann Michaelwa*, and one of her Sisters *Marfa Aleyewa*.

Before we proceed further, 'tis fit the Reader should be told, That the Regency of the Princess had encourag'd several other Princesses of the *Czarian* Family to leave their Convents, and come to the Imperial Palace, where the herself resided, which she tolerated during her Regency, for fear the Reasons and Custom which she could alledge for their Confinement, should be laid to her Charge; and least those who. envied her, and were tir'd with her Administration, should make use of them to oblige her to return to her Monastery. Besides these three already nam'd, *Katherine Sopbia*, *Maria*, and *Sediassa*, are Sisters by Father and Mother of the *Czar John Alexerwich*, their Mother's Name was *Mirasselawka*. The *Czar Peter*, and the Princess *Natalia*, are by a Second Marriage with a Lady of the Family of *Naraskin*. The *Czar John's* Wife is of the House of *Sallukan*, her Name is *Martha*, she has had a Daughter by him. The *Czar Peter* is married to a Lady of the House of *Poukin*, nam'd *Marfa*, or *Martha*. This Princess was so frighted at being forc'd

to follow her Husband in his Flight by Night, almost naked, to escape being murder'd, (which had unavoidably happen'd, but for the warning that was given to Young *Galischin*) that she miscarried a few days after; but has since brought a Young Prince into the World in *February* last, which has for ever ruin'd the Princess's Party.

To return to our Story; The two Aunts, and the Princess's Sister, went to *Trinity* in hopes of reconciling their Nephew and Niece; being come before the *Czar*, they beseech'd him not to give credit to those Rumours which had frightened him: They assur'd him there was some misunderstanding in the matter; that some were maliciously designing to make a Breach between him and his Sister, and that he might come back to *Moscow* with safety and security. The *Czar Peter* made answer to these Ladies, That he had not fled in a panick Fear; that there was a plain Conspiracy to Murder his Wife, his Mother, his Uncles, and himself; and he laid before them so many Circumstances of the Attempt, that his Aunts could not deny the truth of it. Then the Princesses fell a crying, and protested they were no way

way concern'd in that horrid Design, and swore they would not return again to *Moscow*, but would live and die with him.

The Princess *Sophia* having Intimation of the bad Success of her Aunts Negotiation, and not knowing what course to take, appli'd her self to the Patriarch, express'd her Grief to him, and so wrought upon him, that the good Man offer'd himself for a Mediator: He went that very day to the *Czar Peter*, told him his Errand, and said all that can be imagin'd to beget a Reconciliation betwixt him and his Sister; but he was strangely surpriz'd, when he understood that he himself was to have been taken off; that *Ligomede*, or the Abbot *Sylvester* was in the Plot, and was to have been made Patriarch had it succeeded. This News extremely troubled him, and he judg'd 'twould not be amiss for him to tarry at *Trinity-Convent* till the Affair was clear'd up, and things better settled; at the same time he publish'd a Proclamation to cause the Traitors to be apprehended.

The Princess in a worse plight now than ever, assembled her Creatures, and consulted what to do. 'Twas resolv'd that the

Akalmik

Akahnik Thekalavitan should be secur'd in the Palace, and that the Abbot *Silvester* should be sav'd; and then she herself, accompani'd by Prince *Galischin*, and all her Friends, took her way towards *Trinity-Convent*, to endeavour to appease her Brother, who had sent a second Order to the *Esseles* to render themselves with all speed at *Trinity*, and bring the Traitors with them. She was not got half way thither, when the *Boyar Trakourau*, sent on purpose by Prince *Peter* to meet her, came and told her, she must go back, for she would not be receiv'd. The Princess being of opinion 'twas dangerous for her to stir any further, and that her Brother would give her a very ill Reception, return'd to *Moscow*. Next day the *Esseles* and *Germans* made their appearance at *Trinity-Convent*; the *Boyars* met and resolv'd among themselves, to send and seize the Traitors where ever they might be found. Colonel *Sarque* with three hundred Men, was commanded to execute this Resolution, and immediately parted for *Moscow*; upon his arrival he march'd directly to the Imperial Palace, and there demanded loudly that *Fiska Thekalavitan* should be deliver'd to him; for
after

after the Treason was discover'd, they no longer call'd him *Fiedor*, or *Theodore*, but by his Diminutive or Nickname, which among the *Russians* is a term of Contempt. The Princess made some Resistance at first, but seeing the Colonel resolutely bent to take him, and considering the ill Consequences of her interposing too far, she deliver'd up. *Fuka* and his Adherents. The Criminals loaded with Chains, were carry'd in a scurvy Wagon to *Trinity*. On the other side, Prince *Galitchin* seeing himself upon the brink of Ruin; yet, not to be wanting to his own Preservation, determin'd to go likewise to the Convent: He took with him his Son *Alexis* his Colleague *Talachanau*, *Woski* the Chamberlain to the *Czars*; *Riquenski*, the Great Treasurer; *Romanorrick*, the Governor of *Serene*, his Councillor and Favourite; *Esmayan* his Creature, who was Commissary-General to the Army; and a particular Friend of his, nam'd *Kassanau*; but the Gate of the Convent was shut against him and his Friends; and after he had been refus'd Entrance, there were Guards sent back with him and his Followers, with Orders not to let them stir out of their Houses.

72 Monsieur De la Neuville's

As soon as *Fiska* was brought to *Trinity*, he was carried into a Great Hall, in which the *Czar* had call'd together the *Boys*; he was examin'd for four Hours, and thence conducted to a Tower in the Convent, where he was tortur'd, or rather whipp'd. They call this Punishment *Kenoufe*; the Malefactor is ti'd upon a strong Man's Back, who stands upright, and lays his Hands upon a Bench as high as his Head. Thus the condemn'd Person receives two or three hundred Lashes, more or less, upon the Back, beginning at the Neck, and so down the whole length of the Back; the Executioner strikes so exactly, that at every lash he fetches off a piece of Flesh as broad as the Whip, which Kills or Lames most that suffer; then they ti'd his Hands behind his Back, and hoisted him up, and the Executioner lash'd him with a Whip as long as a Coachman's, but the Thong is made of a thick and hard Leather, which cuts deep into the Flesh, and put him to exquisite Pain; after he had undergone a few of these Strokes, he confess'd that he was to have kill'd the *Czar*, his Mother, and her three Brothers. Upon this they carri'd him back to Prison, from whence he wrote to the

Czar

Czar Peter, and acquainted him at large with all the particulars of the Conspiracy; pleaded that he was over-persuaded to this cruel Enterprize, and nam'd the Persons that put him upon it. The *Czar*, though fully satisfi'd of his Sister's Barbarity, would not publicly expose a Princess of the Blood; and Prince *Borice Alexewich Galischin*, had need of all his Credit with the *Czar*, to save the Prince, his Cousin, from being executed, to the dishonour of his Family.

After this, several others who were to have been the Assassins, were examin'd. They gave them the Question, or extraordinary Torture, which is more severe than the former. They shav'd their Heads, and having tied them fast, they pour'd boiling Water drop by drop upon their Skulls, which put them to such intolerable Pain, that they immediately acknowledged their Crime, and discover'd their Accomplices, as *Fiska* had done: Two days were spent in consulting how to punish the Criminals. Prince *Galischin*, his Son, and Friends, were condemn'd to Banishment, and the Sentence was read to them by a Secretary of State at the foot of the Stairs. He stood up

up to hear it, encompass'd with the Guards, who brought him from his Houfe. And this was the Form of it:

You are order'd by the Czar to go to Karga, a Town under the Pole, and remain there as long as you live, remov'd from, and in Difgrace with his Majesty; whose Goodness nevertheless is fuch, that he allows you Three Pence a day for Subfiftence. His Juftice ordains that all your Goods be forfeited to his Treafury.

The miserable Prince having bow'd his Head, and only answer'd, That 'twas hard for him to juftify himfelf to his Majesty, retir'd, and was conducted to the place of his Exile by a Colonel. A Secretary of State was difpatch'd to *Moscow* to feize upon his Palace, and make an Inventory of what was in it. They found there very rich Moveables; a hundred thoufand Ducats in a Trunk, buried in a Vault, which were thought to be the Spoils of the *Hettman Jean Samuelewick*; four hundred Veffels of Silver, weighing forty Pounds each, and fome Money. The Wife of this Prince, and his Son's Wife, were banifh'd with them; but they were not admitted to take

take any thing with them; thirty Roubles was all that these four Persons were allow'd.

Galischin being dispos'd of, the *Boyar Romanorrich*, Woywode of *Serene*, was brought to the foot of the Stairs, and condemn'd to go to *Postozora*, a Town further North than *Karga Poka*, there to spend the rest of his Days; his Estate was confiscated likewise. *Wedenik Andrewik Esmeyan* was charg'd to confine himself at home till further Order. *Kasantan* was turn'd out of all his Places, and confin'd to his own House and Lands. *Talachanan* was made for his Life Woywode of *Prziacelavaka*, a Town not far from *Kiau* upon the *Nieper*; and the Great Treasurer was made Woywode of *Novogrod*, upon the River *Samare*, as long as he liv'd. Next day *Fiska* had his Head cut off upon a Block; and two *Esstreles* that were to have been the Assassins suffered the same Punishment. The Colonel that commanded the Detachment was whipp'd, had his Tongue cut out, and was sent to end his Days in *Ziberia*, with an allowance of a Penny a day; the five other *Esstreles* had their Tongues cut out likewise, and were sent into *Ziberia* to kill Sables. All

76 Monsieur De la Neuville's

All these Executions being over, the Czar *Peter* acquainted the Princess with what he had done, and desir'd her to leave the Palace, and retire into a Monastery, which she had built out of Town; but she refus'd to comply with his request, not being able to prevail with her self to enter into a place for Life, from whence she had cunningly deliver'd her self contrary to Custom; she lik'd better to retreat into *Poland*, of which the Czar being inform'd, he sent Order to the Commander of the *Escreles* to Conduct her either willingly, or by force, to the Monastery, and set Guards upon all the Avenues, and suffer no Person to come to her; which was accordingly done. And two days after the Czar *Peter* return'd to *Moscow*, and made his Entry on Horseback; there was nothing remarkable in it, but 18000 *Escreles* of his Guards arm'd. A quarter of an Hour after, his Wife and Mother came in a Coach, and all together alighted at the Palace. The Czar *John* stood to receive his Brother at the top of the Steps; they embrac'd; *Peter* ask'd *John* to be Friends; and he that answer'd for him, having assur'd him he was so, each retir'd

tir'd to his Apartment; and since that time no mention has been made of *John*, but at the beginning of their Acts. Thus ended the Regency of the Princess *Sophia*, who had been Mistress of the Great Empire of *Russia* for some Years, but for endeavouring through a boundless Ambition to get all the Power into her hands, which she held in the Name of her Brothers, and to be absolute and independent, was confin'd and shut up for the rest of her Life, with eight hundred Religious Women, whom she had caus'd to come from *Kiovia*, with design to make her self the more Creatures through their assistance; for they have nothing of Religion in them, but the Name; and not doubting but they would be more in her Interest than in her Brother *Peter's*, whose Subjects they were made in 1666. when the *Palatine*, and City of *Kiovia*, were yielded by the *Poles* to the *Muscovites*.

The

*The Causes of the Troubles in
Moscow.*

AFTER having given an ample Relation of the Conspiracy against the *Czar Peter*; it may be proper to shew, That the Troubles that Court has been embroil'd in, and those that may hereafter happen, were and will be owing to the Intrigues of the Princess *Sophia*, whose Wit and Merit is of another Stamp than her Person; for she is very ugly, being of a monstrous Size, with a Head as big as a Bushel; she has Hair upon her Chin, Tumours upon her Legs, and is at least forty Years old. But though her Shape be deform'd, her Judgment is regular and piercing; and though she never read *Machiavel*, she has by Nature all his Maxims, and especially this, That they may attempt any thing, and stick at no Crime, who are resolv'd to Reign: And had she contented her self with the Administration of the Government, and had not attempted to rid her self of her Brother *Peter*, no body durst have form'd a Party in Favour of the *Czar Peter* against her.

her. Towards the end of the *Czar Theodore's* Reign, the Princess *Sophia* having those Qualifications we have mention'd; and foreseeing that Prince could not live long in his infirm State of Body, she contriv'd how to get out of her Convent, notwithstanding the settled Custom, which obliges the Female Issue of the *Czarian* House to pass their Lives in that Confinement unmarried. To which end she pretended an extraordinary kindness for her Brother, and complained of her unhappiness that she could not visit a Person whom she loved so tenderly, and attend him in his Sickness; when he was in the Fits of his Distemper, she sent every moment to ask how he did; and at other times she let slip no occasion of testifying her Love for him, and the Grief she felt in being oblig'd to be absent from him. At length, by these Methods having prepared a way for her intended Design, she left the Convent under pretence of serving her Brother, and administering to him in his Sickness, which she did, not suffering any body to come near him, nor give him Medicines but her self; for she wisely consider'd, that the more she did for him, the more she should

should be lov'd, both by the *Czar* himself, and every body else. Thus she insinuated her self into the good Opinion of the *Grandeess*, to whom she carried her self very obligingly, and won the Peoples hearts by her affable Behaviour, studying to make all approve her Conduct, and excuse her leaving the Convent. One would have thought she should have been satisfied with being at liberty; but being determin'd never to return to her Confinement, she thought her best way would be to make her self absolute Mistress; which Design being not to be carried on without a considerable number of Friends, she pitch'd upon Prince *Galischin*, as the fittest Person to be the chief of her Party.

He was a Man of great Quality, descended from the last Duke of *Lithuania*, of the House of *Jagelon*: The Courtiers at first seem'd well enough pleas'd with this Choice, imagining he would only have the Name of Chief Minister, and they should share the Power with him; But the Prince having more cunning than all the *Muscovites* put together, easily managed them during the Reign of *Theodore*, who dying suddenly, *Convanski*, a bold Man, and a declar'd Enemy

my of *Galischin's*, made an Insurrection, and cut off all the great Men that he thought would oppose his Design of making himself *Czar*, under pretence of revenging his Master's Death upon those, who as he gave out, poyson'd him. When thinking himself sure of the Crown, and fearing no body, he was taken and punish'd for his Temerity and Cruelties; as we have related at large already.

The Death of this Rebel, gave rise to the Princess's Regency, who conferr'd the Office of Grand Chancellor upon her Favourite *Galischin*, in which Post never any Man in this Country govern'd with so great Authority.

The Princess *Sophia* thinking now she might do any thing; for the ease of her Conscience, shewas minded to change her scandalous Familiarity with this Favourite into a Marriage; all the difficulty lay in getting rid of *Galischin's* Wife, whom the Prince was loath to part with, as well out of a Natural Principle of Honour, as because he had a great Estate and Children by her, and did not love the Princess but upon the Account of his Fortune.

G

But

82 *Monfieur De la Neuville's*

But Women being ingenious in such Affairs, she found means to make him persuade his Wife to go into a Monastery; in which Case, according to the Religion of the *Muscovites*, the Husband being of too Sanguine a Constitution to live unmarried, obtain'd leave of the Patriarch to Marry again; the good Lady having consented to it, the Princess no longer doubted of succeeding in her Design, that that most troubled *Galifibin* was the Murder of the two *Czars*, which she had absolutely resolv'd, to secure the Crown intirely to her self. The Prince more Politick than Amorous, laid before her the Barbarity of such a Design, in which should she succeed, she would infallibly draw upon her the hatred of all Men; and which, though never so secretly hid, might one day be discover'd, and give occasion to some Male-content to raise such a Sedition as *Cowanski* had done, under Colour of revenging their Deaths, and endanger the Crown. But he advis'd her to take a Course less bloody, yet in all likelihood as proper to effect her Designs, which was to Marry the *Czar John*, and give his Wife a Gallant to supply his Impotence, which the Lady might be more readily

readily inclin'd to comply with, for that her Heirs would succeed to the Empire, that when the *Czar John* should have a Son, the *Czar Peter* would loose all his Friends and Interest, and then they might Marry; and to give a better Grace to their Marriage, they would get chosen for Patriarch, Father *Silvester*, a *Polish* Monk of the *Greek* Church, who should immediately propose by an Embassy to *Rome*, the Re-union of the two Churches; which being brought about, would procure them a general Esteem, and then they would compel *Peter* to go into Orders; or else they might find means to dispatch him out of the way more easily, and with less Odium, than she could propose to do it now. And then they would make *John* complain of his Wives Incontinence, and shew that the Children that she had could not be his; which would be easy for them to prove, who were themselves in the Secret, whence would follow a Divorce, and the Wife be confin'd to a Convent; after which they would get a permission to Marry him again to one who they would take care should bring him no Children. Thus without fear or danger, or even of being suspected of foul play, they should

84 *Monsieur De la Neuville's*

Rule the State during the Life of *John*, and after his Death succeed him for want of Heirs Male in the *Czarian* Family.

The Princess liked this Project well, and left the Conduct of it to *Galischin*; it never entered into her head that this Prince had further Designs, since by reuniting *Muscovy* to the *Romish* Church, provided (as he hoped) the Princess should die before him; He did not doubt to prevail with the Pope to make his own Legitimate Son Heir to the Empire, instead of any he should have by the Princess during the Life of his Wife.

He began then with marrying *John*; and whereas the *Czars* never Match with Foreigners, they publish an Order for all the handsomest Maids in all *Russia* to be brought to Court, who are visited by the *Czar's* Mothers, Sisters, and Kinswomen, with the Physicians and Surgeons, and she is chosen that is best lik'd; it was not difficult to find one that was proper for their Designs, whom they provided with an *Italian* Surgeon for her Gallant, who soon got her with Child, but as ill fortune would have it, prov'd a Girl; mean time *Peter's* Friends being

being acquainted with the roguery, cast about how to Counter-plot them; but finding they wanted sufficient power, they engaged on their side another Prince *Galischin*, Cousin to this, who was despised by him for his Drunkenness, and made him the Young *Czar's* Favourite; then under pretence of honouring him, they obliged the Great *Galischin* to take upon him the Command of the Army a second time, and in his Absence married Prince *Peter* in spite of the Princess. This bold Stroke increas'd *Peter's* Party; all the Young Men, whose Fathers affected to follow the Princess, declared for *Peter*. *Galischin* upon his Return seeing his Measures broken by the Marriage of the Young *Czar*, whose Wife was with Child, he agreed at last to take off the *Czar Peter*; but the Plot miscarrying, as we have before related, he thought it high time to fly, which he might have done, had not the Princess opposed it, who assured him all along, that no body durst call to Account a Person of his Authority. His design was to send his eldest Son Ambassador to *Poland*, with his younger Son, his Grandson, and all his Riches, and to follow himself, if the Conspiracy did not succeed to his wish,

hoping to engage the King of *Poland* to protect him, upon promising him to raise some Troops in his Kingdom, with which he design'd to go over to the *Cossacks* and *Tartars*, and then he would undertake that by Force, which he could not effect by Policy. 'Tis probable this Design might have succeeded, he having great Interest in those Parts: But the Princess not being able to part with him, hindered his Retreat till the very Night before his Disgrace, when he might still have saved himself, having all the Seals in his own Hands, and having but forty *German* Leagues from *Moscow* to the nearest Town in *Poland*: And I am persuaded he would then have fled if he had done what he projected; but seeing the Precipitation and Violence of the Princess *Sophia* had prevented him, he chose rather to suffer the utmost Stroke of Fortune, and even Death itself, rather than by his Flight to expose his Family that he must leave behind, to all the Outrages which his malicious Enemies could invent; and to see himself reduc'd from such a height of Fortune, to be a poor wandering fugitive in a Foreign Country.

The

The Present State of Muscovy.

WHEN *Galischin* was gone into Banishment, *Naraskin*, the *Czar* *Peter's* Uncle by the Mother's side, found but one Obstacle to his Design of succeeding his Nephew, viz. The Young *Galischin*, Prince *Peter's* Favourite, whom he could not easily destroy, because he himself had been the cause of his rise; but young *Peter* and his Favourite being little read in Politicks, this old Fox insinuated into his Nephew, that his Favourite must needs have been concerned with the Great *Galischin*, as might be judged from the zealous Endeavours he had made to save his Life; but the *Czar* representing to him how hard it was for him to suspect a Man that had saved his Life three times, *Naraskin* accompanied by his Daughter and Sons with Tears in their Eyes, declared to *Peter*, That if he did not remove that Favourite, he might even as well recal the Great *Galischin*. A Prince of more understanding than he, would have been shock'd at least with this; but he readily promised

sed to confine his Favourite to live upon his own Lands; whither that Prince being advertised of the matter, was already gone without staying for Orders.

As soon as the *Czar* heard of it, he sent to him Courier after Courier, to ask the Cause of his Retirement: To whom he gave no other Answer, Than that seeing his past Conduct could not convince His Majesty of his Fidelity, he would never more come to Court. The *Czar* *Peter* was so sensibly affected with this, that he sent two *Boysars* to visit him; and some days after impatient to see him, he sent two others to desire him to return, which he presently did. The *Czar* *Peter* cared him extremely upon his return, which so alarm'd the *Naraskins*, and their Party, that they resolv'd to endeavour to be Friends with him; for a little while he made a great Figure by the Favours that he conferr'd upon his Friends; but at last, this Prince, who had nothing of the Merit of his Cousin in him, began to follow his Maxims, in causing the *Grandeess* to be disgrac'd, and their Places given to such Drunkards as himself; but he soon fell

fell into Disgrace himself; for his Opponents making as if they would restore the Princess, partly wrought so far upon *Peter*, that in the end he resolved to give the Place of the Great *Galischin*, which his Cousin expected, and which till then had been managed by Commissioners, to *Naraskin*, his Mother's Father. This Action, at a time when 'twas least expected, determin'd all People to follow the Party of the *Naraskins*, whose Sons were soon put into Places of the greatest Trust; among the rest, his Eldest Son was made Great Chamberlain, and Young *Galischin* turn'd out of that place; which so incens'd him, that he could not forbear expressing his Resentment, by charging the *Czar* with Weakness. His Enemies made their advantage of this Conduct, and determin'd the *Czar*, who has no other Merit than Cruelty, to Banish this Favourite ignominiously; and he has since given Orders to put both the exil'd *Galischins* to Death. Those that rejoyc'd most at the fall of the Great *Galischin*, are now sensible of the loss of him; for the *Naraskins* that Govern now, are Ignorant and Brutish, and begin to destroy, contrary to all Policy and good Sense,

Sense, all that that Great Man had done with so much prudence for the Glory and Advantage of the Nation, and would gladly recommend themselves by reviving their ancient barbarous Customs.

These Brutes have already forbid Strangers to come into their Country, and have forbid the Exercise of the Catholick Religion: The Envoy of *Poland* is allowed a Chappel indeed, but he obtain'd it with a great deal of difficulty. Nay, it is thought that ere long they will oblige the *Muscovites* to learn only to Read and Write as formerly, that in that as well as in other things their Government may be absolutely Tyrannical, which will make the loss of *Galischin* the more lamented.

For he built a very noble College of Stone, and put into it twenty *Grecian* Doctors, and a great many Books; he advised the Noblemen to give their Children learning: obtained leave for them to send some of their Sons to the *Latin* Colleges in *Poland*, and to send for *Pollish* Tutors to those they would Educate

cate at home, and permitted Strangers to come into, or go out of the Kingdom, which before his time was never allow'd. He would also have the Nobility travel abroad, and learn the Art of War in Foreign Countries; his design being to lay aside those Legions of Peasants, whose Lands were left uncultivated when they went to the Wars; and instead of that useless Charge upon the People, to lay a reasonable Tax upon every House. He advised that Ministers should be sent to reside in all the chief Courts of *Europe*, and to give a Liberty of Conscience throughout the Country.

He had already receiv'd the Jesuits into *Moscow*, with whom he very often convers'd; but the next day after his Disgrace, they were all sent away with a Declaration from the *Czars* to the Emperor, and King of *Poland*, who had sent them, that they would never again let any come into the Country. Accordingly, in *March 1690*. they refused to let the King of *Poland's* Envoy (who requested it in his Master's Name) to pass through their Dominions; and likewise Father *Grimaldi* from the

the Emperor, who is now in *Poland* for the Emperor of *China*. If I should set down all that I have learnt concerning this Prince, I should never have done. 'Tis sufficient to say, That he design'd to people Deserts, to enrich Beggars, to make Men of Brutes, good Soldiers of Cowards, and Palaces of Cottages; all which advantages *Muscovy* has lost by the fall of that Prince. His own Palace is one of the most Magnificent in *Europe*; 'tis cover'd with Copper, and hung within with rich Tapestries, and noble Paintings; and during his Ministry, three thousand Houses were built of Stone in *Moscow*, which will not be thought strange by those that know there are five hundred thousand Inhabitants in that City, and that it is composed of three Towns, one within another, each surrounded by a great Wall, and a Ditch full of Water to defend them from the Incursions of the *Tartars*; the first is call'd *Kzim*; the second *Bialograd*, or the White Town; and the third *Novograd*, or the New Town.

The greatest Curiosity in it to a Stranger, is to see in *December* two thousand Wooden-houses set up for the *Eastern* and

and *European* Merchants. Prince *Galischin* also built upon the River *Moscow*, which runs into the *Occa*, a Stone-bridge of twelve Arches, and of a prodigious height, because of the Floods; 'tis the only Stone-bridge in all *Muscovy*, and was contriv'd by a *Polish* Monk.

The Manners and Religion of the Muscovites.

THE *Muscovites*, to speak properly, are Barbarians, Suspicious and Mistrustful, Cruel, Sodomites, Gluttons, Covetous, Beggars, and Cowards; all Slaves except three Families of Foreigners; Prince *Sirkache*, formerly Lord of the Country of that Name, who is vastly rich; *Galischin*, and *Harthemomerrich*. Besides, they are so dull and brutish, that were it not for the *German*, who are very numerous in *Moscow*, they could do nothing well. They are very nasty, though they often Bathe themselves in places built on purpose, and made so excessive hot, that no body

94 *Monfieur De la Neuville's*

body but they could fupport it. Men and Women mingle together in those Bagnio's which usually stand upon the Water-side, that those who Sweat may jump into the cold Water, which they do as well in Winter as Summer; but though they are very hardy, yet they are more sensible of Cold than the *Poles*. They Eat and Drink very ill; their usual Food is only Cucumbers and Melons of *Astrakan*, which they pickle in Summer, in Water, Flower, and Salt. They eat no Veal out of a scruple, too infamous to be nam'd; nor Pigeon out of Superstition, because the Holy Ghost is represented to us under that Figure. The Men are cloath'd much like the *Poles*; those that are Rich, in Winter wear Cloath-Gowns brought from *Holland*, lin'd with fine Furs, and Jewels, or little Pearls, that are common in their Country, in their Caps: In Summer, *Persian* and *Chinese* Stuffs and Silks.

The Women are drest like the *Turks*; the poorest of 'em are proud of having a Cap of *Persian* Stuff, more or less Rich, such as they can purchase. The richest garnish 'em with Pearls and Precious

cious Stones. Their Gowns or *Saltanaes* in Winter are made of Stuffs flow-er'd with Gold, lin'd with Sables, and in Summer of *Chinese* Damask. They wear no Hair in their Head-dresses. They walk very uneasily; for their Shoes are made like Sandals, and too big for their Feet. They paint their Faces, shave their Eye-brows and colour 'em as they fancy. Are very fond of Strangers, little scrupulous about the Nearness of Blood; and despise their Husbands above all things. The *Muscovites* love to go abroad, and are always in haste; their Equipage is very pitiful, most of 'em ride about Town upon a scrubbed Horse, with their Footmen running bareheaded before 'em: In Winter this Beast is harness'd to a Sledge, and this is all their Carriage. As for the Women, they have most of 'em a scurvy kind of a Coach made like a Litter, drawn commonly by a single Horse; they go 5 or 6 together in't, and sit squat down, for there's neither Seat nor Cushion in it. Though there are Five or Six hundred thousand Inhabitants in *Moscow*, there are no more than Three hundred of these Coaches, but above
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96 *Monfieur De la Neuville's*

a Thousand little Chariots with one Horse, which for a small matter carry people from one place to another.

Some of the Richeſt have Coaches made after the *French* fashion, brought from *Holland* and *Dantzick*. Those of the *Czars* are very old; the reason is, they never buy any, hoping to have 'em presented by foreign Princes or Ambassadors. The best they have are made after the Mode of the Country, some with Boots, and others like Litters. Their Sleds are very fine; those that are open, are made of Gilded Wood lin'd within with Velvet, and broad Galloons: They are drawn by Six Horses, whose Harnes is cover'd with Velvet. Those Sleds that are cover'd, are made like a Coach with Glasses, cover'd on the outside with Red Cloth, and within with Sables: They lye down and sleep in them when they travel, which they commonly do in the Night-time in Winter.

When the *Czars* go through the City either in Coach or Sled, they change their best Equipages for such as they use in the Country. They have

have several Wooden Houses about *Moscow*, which they improperly term Pleasure-houses, for there's neither Gardens nor Walks, they are only surrounded with Walls, for fear of being carried off by the *Poles* or *Tartars*, which often happen'd fifty years ago.

The *Czar, Peter* is very tall, and pretty well shap'd, and has a Comely Face; his Eyes are large, but unsteady, which makes it no pleasant thing for any body to look upon him; his Head shakes continually, though he is but Twenty Years old. His diversion is to make his Favourites shoot at one another, and sometimes they kill one another to ingratiate themselves with him. In Winter he causes great holes to be made in the Ice, and forces his fattest Lords to pass over 'em in Sleds; they fall in and are drown'd sometimes, when the holes are not froze over again hard enough to bear 'em. Now and then he causes the Great Bell to be toll'd, and nothing pleases him better than to see houses on fire; which happens very often in *Moscow*, for they never take pains to put out the fire till there are

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four

four or five hundred burnt. . The truth on't is, there's seldom much damage done, for these houses are little better than our Hogsties in *France* or *Germany*: They are bought in the Market ready built. In 1688 there were Three thousand burnt; and within four Months last Year I saw three fires, in each of which five or six hundred houses at least were burnt. These fires are occasion'd by their perpetual Drunkenness, and their negligence to put out the many Tapers that they stick about the Pictures in their Chambers. They prepare themselves for *Lent* by a Carnival of as many days, during which the disorder is so great, that the Foreigners who live in the Suburbs dare hardly venture into the City, for they butcher one another like Wild Beasts, and make themselves drunk with Brandy and other Liquors, so strong and yet so abominable, that no body but they can drink 'em; so that 'tis no wonder they lose the little reason they have naturally, and stab one another with great Knives like Bayonets. A fellow shall kill his best Friend and Comrade there, if he hopes to rob him of a Penny.

Penny. All they do to hinder or at least lessen these outrages, is to reinforce the Guards; but the Soldiers, who are no soberer than the rest, never come in till the mischief's done; and provided they have their share of the Plunder, the Criminal is sure to escape; insomuch that no body's concern'd in this Country to see people murder'd daily in the streets. They eat so greedily, that they are forc'd to sleep three hours at least after dinner, and go to bed as soon as they've sup'd; but they make amends by rising betimes in the morning. Nay, they live thus in the Army, and every private Soldier takes a Nap at noon. In the Summer they strip themselves naked, and bathe, and so they lye down to sleep. They can't endure Rain, and 'tis very rare in these parts. They all wear little Caps, and when they meet their Friends they make a sign of the Cross, and shake hands. This they do, I suppose, to call God to witness to their Infidelity, for cheating's one of their Virtues.

The Religion of the *Muscovites* is that of the *Greeks*, and may be call'd

H 2

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100 *Monsieur De la Neuville's*

Archichismatical, for 'tis so full of horrible Superstitions, which their Ignorance has introduc'd into it, that they may pass for half Idolaters. They have kept up the Sacerdotal Order among 'em, but they treat their Priests and Monks with very little respect; for they make no scruple when they catch 'em out of their Churches, to take off their Caps, and when they have thresh'd 'em sufficiently, to put 'em upon their heads again very orderly.

The Patriarch of *Muscovy* resided formerly at *Kiovia*, but the *Muscovites* have obtain'd since that City surrender'd to 'em, that his Seat should be transfer'd to *Moscow*. This Patriarch is usually chosen from among the Metropolitans, and confirm'd by the *Czar*. He cannot be depos'd but by those of *Constantinople* and *Antioch*. In the Reign of the *Czar Theodore*, one was sent thither at the *Czar's* Charge; he died last year, and was chosen at first purely for his handsome Beard. The Patriarch and Metropolitans always wear their Pontifical Habits, and go abroad in them either in a Coach or
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on Horseback. Their Cross is carri'd before them by a Footman, who always is bareheaded; for let the Weather be as 'twill, the Servants that according to custom walk before their Masters, are never cover'd. Their Copes differ from those of our Bishops in this particular, that they have little Bells hung all round 'em. The Prelates carry their Beads in their hands, which reach down to the ground, and are always mumbling over 'em. Their chief Devotion is in Processions, which are perform'd in the following manner. All the Clergy in magnificent Copes, most of them edg'd with Pearls, come out of some Church, but all in a Crowd without any order, to go to another where the Solemn Service is to be held. Every Priest carries something in his hand, some a Book, others a Cross, and others a Crozier. Those that march next to the Metropolitan or Patriarch, carry great Pictures of the Virgin richly adorn'd with Gold, Jewels, and Chaplets or Bead-rolls of Pearls, others great Crosses richly adorn'd likewise, and so heavy, that some are carri'd by four Priests. Then

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'come

come those that carry the Gospels, which without dispute are the most magnificent in *Europe*, for a single Leaf costs betwixt Twenty five and Thirty thousand Crowns. I have seen one which the *Czar Peter* had made for him by a *French Jeweller*, on each side set with five Emeralds, the least of which is worth Ten thousand Crowns, and enchas'd in four Pound of Gold, for these people value no Work but what is weighty. After these come the Abbots, follow'd by the Metropolitans, and last of all at some distance comes the Patriarch, having his Bonnet on, thick set with Pearls, and fashion'd, excepting the Three Crowns, like the Pope's *Tiara*. He ought to be supported by the *Czars*, but they having more occasion when they walk, to be led themselves, nominate some Lords to do that Office. These Processions are preceded by about a hundred men, some with Brooms to sweep the way, and others to strew Sand upon it. Before Prince *Galischin's* Ministry they were oblig'd to march sometimes through the dirt, which he remedied by causing all the Streets to be plank'd, for there's no paving

paving in *Muscovy*; but since his disgrace they have kept none but the great Streets in repair. All the Devotion of the *Muscovites* lies in assisting at Mass, which their Priests begin at Midnight; though their Service is very long, they never sit down at Church, nor ever pray but in Meditation, for most of them can neither write nor read, and not one of 'em, no not among their Priests, understands *Greek*. They have abundance of Holidays, which they observe no otherwise than in ringing all the Bells from the Eve before the Festival to the Morning after it, and they work upon all the days in the year indifferently. They are likewise very fond of making Pilgrimages: The *Czar John*, though he be so Paralytick, spends his Life in them, though 'twould be more to his Credit not to shew himself abroad so often, but keep within his Palace, for he is a frightful sight, so very ugly, that 'tis irksome to look upon him, tho he is but Twenty eight years old. When they arrive at the place, they begin their Devotion by kissing the Earth, making many signs of the Cross, and bowing to

Some Images, or places where they ought to be. Their Priests are married, but must not lye with their Wives the Night before their Festivals. The Bishops and Abbots are oblig'd to live single. When a *Roman* Catholick turns to their Religion they baptize him anew, and if he be married, and his Wife won't turn too, he may marry another. They keep *Lent* three times a year; the first is ours, the second six Weeks before *Christmas*, and the third fifteen days before our Lady's day in *September*. They dress their Fish in Oyl, which next to themselves is certainly the filthiest stuff in the world: This kills most of the Soldiers, for the Fish they use being dried in the Sun, and in a manner putrified, breeds great distempers among 'em; and so does their common Drink, which is nothing but Water and Flower.

They love to build Churches; and whenever a Nobleman builds a House, he erects a Chappel, and maintains in it as many Monks as he can afford. There are in *Moscow* Twelve hundred Churches built of Stone, which

which have every one five Turrets with Bells in them, and at top of each Turret is a Cross, the least of which is four Foot high. The most magnificent Churches are those of the *Kirin*, and *St. Michael*, which stand near the *Czar's* Palace, the Dome and Turrets are cover'd with Copper gilt, and the Crosses are painted Red. The Inside of these Churches is painted like Mosaic Work, over-against them is a great Steeple, in which hang several great Bells, among the rest one that is twenty Foot in Diameter, forty in height, and a Foot and a half thick; they have shav'd forty thousand Weight of Metal out of it, to make it sound well. They never ring it out but on *Twelfth-day*, which is kept very solemnly by the *Muscovites*: And they strike upon it when the *Czar* lies with the Great Dutcheſs, to warn the people to pray for the Conception of a Prince, for they make little account of a Daughter. Half the Lands in *Muscovy* belong to the Monks, because the great Piety of the *Muscovites* consists in building Cloysters, several of which hold a hundred Religious, who live in great Plenty and per-

perfect Ignorance. There are likewise many Convents for Nuns. All sorts of Religions are permitted in *Muscovy*, except the Catholick, which they look upon as the only good one next to their own. If a Foreigner of any Religion soever goes into their Churches, they make him turn *Russian*, because formerly those that look'd in, us'd to laugh at their Ceremonies and singing, which is very like the humming of dumb People.

*An Account of a Way by Land through
Muscovy to China, and of the
Commerce betwixt them and the
Muscovites.*

THE Trade of Furs is of long standing in *Muscovy*, but is alter'd now from what it was; the Sables were little known there formerly, and they dealt only in ordinary Furs, except Ermins, which they exchange'd for such Goods as they wanted. But the Grandfather of the present Czars, *Basile Basillewik*, Sirnam'd the Tyrant, (he was justly so call'd, for he took pleasure in spilling the Blood of his Subjects, and particularly once made his Coachman drive the Coach in which was his Wife, over a Lake that was thinly frozen within a quarter of a League of *Moscow*, in which she, and all that were with her were drown'd); having conquer'd the Kingdoms of *Astrakan* and *Cazan*, discover'd at length part of that vast Country, since call'd *Ziberia*, which in the *Sclavonian* Tongue signifies a Prison; because that Cruel and

and Barbarous Prince sent into that Country, which had then no Name, those that displeased him; to whom is owing the Discovery of the Sables, or *Zibelin Martins*; and also of a Way to *China* through those vast Desarts, covered with impassable and unknown Woods, which probably stretch as far as the frozen Sea, by advancing still forward, and penetrating further in chase of these Creatures, Black Foxes, Wolves, and other Wild Beasts, with which these uninhabited Forests abound, and whose Skins are so valuable.

After the Death of this Tyrant, his Son succeeding him, studied how to make an Advantage of his Power, by permitting Foreign Merchants to come and Trade in the Country. The *Dutch* were the first that attempted to pass by Sea to *Muscovy*; but not being able to succeed in it, the *English* adventur'd with success, and arriv'd at *Arch-Angel*, a Port situated in the Sea or Gulf of *St. Nicholas*. The *Czar* hearing of it, granted them large Privileges, viz. To pay no Custom inwards and outwards, to engage them to settle a Trade. The *Dutch* being piqu'd at this Discovery, endeav-

endeavour'd all they could to break off this Agreement; but the *Czar* fearing the Establishment of Commerce with the *English* would be delay'd by such a proceeding, forbid the *Dutch* to enter into the Port. And so the *English* remain'd sole Masters of this Trade, till the Death of King *Charles I.* of which this Prince, though a *Barbarian*, being inform'd, took away from the *English* out of Policy, though he term'd it a Punishment for beheading their King, all their Privileges, and gave leave to the *Dutch* to come into the Port, upon Condition to pay 15 *per Cent.* for all that they imported and exported; and they have since carried this Trade on so advantageously, that at present they maintain above two hundred Factors in the Country; of whom the greatest part come and Winter at *Moscow*, because of the excessive Cold. It was upon this occasion that Money was first brought into *Muscovy*, which is now as common there as in *Poland*; for there are in the Suburbs of *Moscow* above a thousand Merchants, *English*, *Dutch*, *Hamburghers*, *Flemings*, and *Italians*; these Trade in *Russia*-Leather and Cavear, which are Sturgeons Eggs. which

which they make up in Cakes, as thick as ones Finger, and as broad as ones Hand, and salt and dry them in the Sun; it is a Commodity to be had here in great Quantities, for there is an incredible number of Sturgeons taken at the Mouth of the *Volga*, and other Rivers, that fall into the *Caspian-Sea*; they are brought up by Water to *Moscow*, and from thence are distributed all over *Muscovy*, and the Neighbouring Countries, as Herrings are among us; and is of great support to the *Muscovites* in their three Lents, which they keep very regularly. The *English* and *Dutch* truck their Cloth and Spices for Corn, Hemp, Rosin, and Pot-Ashes. The *Flemings* and *Hamburgers* deal with them for Wax and Iron. The Ships of these Nations come to *Arch-Angel* in *July*, and depart in *September*; they that stay longer, run the hazard to be lost. The passage from *Bergen* to *Arch-Angel*, is commonly perform'd in fifteen or twenty Days, either going or coming. This Commerce is very considerable, yet there does not come above thirty Ships a year into that Port. The *Persians* come from *Hispahan*, cross the *Caspian-Sea* to *Astrakan* at the end of *October*,

October, thence they Travel in Sleds to Moscow at the Czar's Charge in five Weeks; when they go back, they go down the *Volga* in thirty or forty Days. The Dutch got leave of the Great *Ga-lischin* to send some of their own Carpenters and Pilots to *Astrakan*, where they built two Frigots, and cross'd over the *Caspian-Sea* to *Chemakay*, the first Town in *Persia*, and traded with the *Persians*; but the *Tartars* having burnt them about eighteen Months ago, the present Ministers have forbid the building any more, which will be very pernicious in the consequence, for the *Muscovite* Vessels are very incommo-
dious. The Design of this Prince was to make this State like the rest in *Europe*; he procured Memoirs of all their Methods of Government; he design'd to begin with giving the Peasants their Liberty, and the Lands they cultivate now for the *Czars* profit, paying an Annual Tribute; by which, as he computed the *Czar's* Revenues would be increased one half, which does not amount to less than seven or eight Millions of *French* Livers in ready Money; for as to the Commodities that make up the rest of his Revenue, it is very hard

hard to compute their Value. He design'd the same thing in Relation to their Drinking-Houses, and other Callings, thinking by these means to make the People Laborious and Industrious, in hopes of enriching themselves.

As to the Hunting of Sables, he made no Alteration in it; that is carried on by Criminals, who are banish'd into *Zibéria*; and Soldiers who are sent thither in Regiments, Commanded by a Collonel, and stay there commonly seven Years; they are all obliged to bring in a certain Quantity of Furs weekly; they must take particular care that the fine Furs have no Holes in them, nor stain'd with Blood; and especially the Sables, which they say spoils them; and therefore they are beaten if they commit any such fault; this makes them very dextrous at Shooting them, which they always do in the Head with a single Ball. The success of this Hunting depends upon much Patience and Assiduity; wherefore they allow the Officers to encourage the Soldiers by sharing with them the overplus of what they must kill weekly for

for the *Czar*, which makes this Employment very considerable, for a Colonel may get in Seven Years by this Service Four thousand Crowns, the Subalterns in proportion; but a Common Soldier never makes more than Six or seven hundred Crowns, and they must have good Friends to get that; for a Gentleman at *Moscow* has nothing in the World to live upon, but a thousand Crowns a Year, half of which is paid in Sables, valued ordinarily at more than they are worth: A Colonel has Four hundred Crowns a Year, and Subalterns proportionably, paid the same way. *Galitschin's* design for the *Czar's*, and his Officers Profit, was to defray the Charge of the State in Money, and for that end sent such as he could Trust into Foreign Countries, with Sables and Furs, either to sell or truck them for such Goods as might be sold again for the *Czar's* Profit. What he did to settle a Commerce with *China* by Land through *Ziberia* and *Tartary*, deserves to be particularly related.

Spartarus, a *Walachian*, was banish'd out of his own Country, after having had his Nose cut off, for discovering to the

114 Monsieur De la Neuville's

Grand Seigneur, a Secret Treaty that the *Hospodar of Walachia*, his Kinsman, had made with the King of *Poland*, and which was the occasion of the *Hospodar's* being deposed, who is kept by the King of *Poland* now in his Court. He retir'd first to the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, who receiv'd him very kindly, because he was very Ingenious, and spoke *Latin*, *Greek*, and *Italian*, very well; but the King of *Poland* informing the Elector of his Infidelity, he was forced to fly from thence; and not knowing what to do, went into *Muscovy*; *Galischin* receiv'd him, and gave him Subsidence; some time after he sent him to *China*, to discover by what means to establish a Trade by Land betwixt that Country and *Muscovy*; he spent two Years in this Journey, and met with great difficulties; but he took such Observation of the Places he pass'd through, that at his return he put *Galischin* in hopes, that in a second Voyage he would take such a Method, that the way should be made as easy as through any part of *Europe*. *Galischin*, upon his Assurances, began to think of some commodious short Road, and having pitched upon it, he contrived how

how to settle convenient Carriages, viz. to build from *Moscow* to *Tobolk*, the Capital of *Ziberia*, some Wooden Houses every Ten Leagues, to put Peasants into them, and to allow them some Lands, upon condition they should maintain in every House Three Horses, he giving them the Three first; who should have a Right to demand of Passengers to and from *Ziberia* upon their own business 3 *d.* per Horse for every Ten Mile: He likewise planted Posts upon this Road, as upon all the rest in *Moscow*, to mark the Way and the Miles; and in those Parts where the Snow is so deep that Horses cannot travel in it, he built some Houses, which he bestowed upon some people who were condemned to perpetual Exile, and furnished them with Money, Victuals, and great Dogs to draw the Sleds over the Snow, and so to *Tobolk*, which stands upon the great River *Irstik*. He had erected some Magazines, and laid up Provisions in 'em; he built several great Barks to go up that River as far as *Ketilbas*, a Lake at the foot of the Mountains *Pragog*, where he had provided necessary Carriage for the rest of the Voyage. *Spatarus* assur'd me he went his last Journey in five Months, with

§ 6 Monsieur De la Neuville's

with as much ease as he could have travell'd in our parts of *Europe*. I earnestly desir'd to learn all particulars, as the Names of Rivers, Mountains, and Provinces through which he went; but I found him very shy and reserv'd, and that he durst not communicate himself freely to me, for fear it should come to be known that he had discover'd a thing to me that the *Czars* would have kept secret; and lest his Complaisance to me in telling me all I desir'd, should cost him a drubbing; for the *Czars* never exempt any one whom they have a mind to give that Correction to, from the *Boyar* to the *Peasant*. He told me however, that he did not question to find an easier and shorter Way the next time he went. But the *Hollanders* being always jealous of their Neighbours (as they have shewn by all their Establishments in the *East*) and designing to get into their hands the Trade of all the world, and exclude every body else if they could, oblig'd the *Muscovites*, after the disgrace of *Galischin*, to forbid all other Foreigners to come into the Countrey; fearing lest if that Road should once be known, and easy to be travell'd, the *French* would attempt it; who carrying thither

So many curious sorts of Work as they make, which the *Chinese* and *Tartars* mightily esteem, and for which in return they might bring back the richest and most valuable Merchandizes, in time might damage their Commerce to the *Cape of Good Hope*, *Batavia*, *Malacca*, and other places in the *East-Indies*, which they took from the *Portuguese* and *English*; and foreseeing that the Commodity of this Way by Land being once settled, all other Merchants would chuse it, rather than venture all the Tempests, Distempers, and other ill Accidents that happen at Sea, besides the tediousness of the Voyage; and that thus a great Trade would one day be carried on, which they don't apprehend from the *Muscovites*, who they know want understanding to make any thing considerable of it, and that they are too poor to buy the rich Commodities of those Kingdoms, and could bring away nothing but a few Silks, Tea, Wooden Ware, and such like Baubles; so that they have nothing to fear from them, who can never do 'em much harm, nor disturb their Trade. Some time after the King of *Poland* made Complaints by his Envoy at *Moscow* against this Prohibition,

118 Monsieur De la Neuville's

bition, which is directly contrary to the Treaty of 1686, in which 'tis expressly said, That his Subjects might go and come through *Muscovy* to *China*: But all the Answer he could get, was, That the *Czars* had so order'd it. They gave the same Reply to the King of *Sweden*, whose Ambassador *Fabricius* made the like Agreement with 'em in 1686. They thought they did a great deal in suffering the King of *Poland*'s Envoys to pass through their Dominions to *Astrakan* at their Charge, who from thence went to *Persia*.

The King of *Poland* inserted this Article in the Treaty of 1686, at the request of the Jesuits, who hop'd to go by Land to *China*; but *Galischin* with all his Interest could not get leave for those to go, whom Count *Siri*, Envoy from *Poland* to *Persia*, brought with him to *Moscow* in 1688, with Order from his Master to facilitate their Journey to *China*; because the *Dutch* Resident hinder'd it underhand, by informing the *Muscovites*, that among the Twelve Jesuits were Father *Avril* and *Bewolier*, *Frenchmen*, which the Most Christian King had sent thither to discover the way by Land to *China*. This made these Brutes declare
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to the *Polish* Envoy, That he might take His Master's Subjects with him into *Persia*; but for the *French*, whose King had lately affronted the *Czar's* Ambassador, they could shew em no other Favor, than send them back the way they came: At their Return the King of *Poland* took care to convey them safe to *Constantinople*; but in all likelihood, when the King of *France* has made a Peace, he will force the *Muscovites* to suffer his Subjects to pass through their Country, and settle a Trade that way to *China*.

F I N I S.



